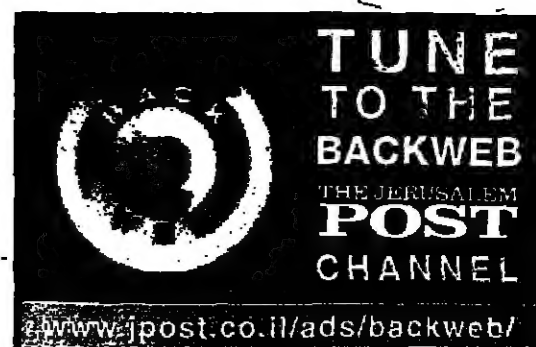


THE JERUSALEM POST



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The New York Times

8-page supplement



Lewis retires from track

Sports, Page 12



Love has many faces in 'Different for Girls'

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2 soldiers killed in Lebanon

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Two Golani Brigade soldiers - St-Sgt. Roslan Yosipov, 21, of Neshet, and St-Sgt. Ophir Basol, 21, of Kfar Sava - were killed by a roadside bomb in south Lebanon on Saturday night.

A Golani unit was on patrol in the western sector of the security zone close to midnight, when the bomb hidden by the roadside exploded as they passed. Yosipov was killed instantly and Basol later died on the operating table. A third soldier, Assaf Saydah, was lightly wounded in the hand by shrapnel.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the attack, declaring that it had been an act of revenge for the death of Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah's son, Hadi, who was killed by IDF troops on Friday.

OC Northern Command Maj-Gen. Amir Levine appointed an inquiry into the incident.

The Golani unit was on its way to set up an ambush near the village of Talousa, not far from Wadi Saluki, when Basol, the point man, apparently triggered the device. The unit's medic treated Basol and Saydah, as an air force rescue squad was summoned.

Levine said the rescue took some time, as the troops came under fire and the evacuation took place on difficult terrain.

Yosipov was buried in the mili-

tary section of the Hof Hacarmel cemetery in Haifa yesterday afternoon. The oldest of three, he worked to assist his widowed mother in supporting the family. Relatives said he had constantly badgered his mother until she gave permission for him to serve in the Golani Brigade. He is also survived by a brother and sister.

Basol was buried in the military section of the Kfar Sava Cemetery yesterday afternoon.

At his wounded son's bedside, Haim Saydah, who was blinded in both eyes by a grenade explosion during military service in Lebanon in 1975, said: "When your child serves in Lebanon, neither the mothers or fathers or sisters or brothers can go about their daily lives in a normal manner. You constantly listen to the news."

The casualties furthered the public outcry for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon.

"We go from shiva to shiva," Ronit Nahmias, head of the Committee of Four Mothers, told Israel Radio. "Claims that IDF troops must remain in Lebanon to safeguard the North do not satisfy us any longer."

She said that where once her group was considered as outcasts, today thousands identify with the cause.

See **LEBANON**, Page 2



Family and friends of Staff-Sgt. Ophir Basol mourn at his grave after yesterday's funeral in Kfar Sava.

US, Israel hail new anti-terror apparatus

Additional 35% in PA funds released, internal closure eased

By JAY BUSHINSKY, STEVE HODAN, and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Albright's behest, to crush terrorism, Prime Minister Binjamin

Israeli and American officials yesterday described Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's talks here as a qualified success, contending that she convinced the Palestinian Authority that it must wage an all-out war against terrorism.

"She drove home the gravity with which the Clinton administration views this issue," an authoritative Israeli source said.

In an early signal of the government's satisfaction with the measures ordered by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, at

4 families move into Ras al-Amud, Page 2

Netanyahu authorized the immediate transfer of an additional 35% of funds owed to the PA.

The amount constitutes half of the funds paid by Palestinians in customs fees, VAT, and other taxes, that were withheld by Israel because of terrorist attacks.

See **US**, Page 2

Gov't allocates NIS 120m. to fight unemployment

By DAVID HARRIS

The government agreed yesterday to allocate NIS 120 million to the fight against unemployment, particularly in areas far from the center of the country.

The money will be spent on completing basic education, professional training, the replacement of foreign workers, small business help, and subsidized transportation.

The proposals were the result of several months of work by a team of ministerial directors-general, under the chairmanship of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry's Yigal Ben-Shalom.

The principal aim of the program is to bring unemployment levels in development areas down to those in the center of the country. Three pro-

fessional teams will be established, each concentrating on a specific geographical area: the North, western Negev, and eastern Negev.

While the national jobless total is

Rafael Eitan: Histadrut strikes political, Page 14

currently some 180,000, or 7.7 percent of the workforce, it is in excess of 12 percent in some development towns in both Jewish and non-Jewish areas.

Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu, accompanied by Finance Minister Yaskov Neeman and Labor and Social Affairs

Minister Eli Yishai, are to give further details at a press conference this afternoon.

The Bank of Israel yesterday published a report backing the government decision. The survey, conducted by the central bank's research department, stressed the need for education, professional training, and the replacement of foreign labor.

Additionally, the bank said there is a need to implement infrastructure projects, creating both employment and the correct economic environment for a larger workforce.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer instructed all schools that if the parent of a pupil is unemployed, the pupil should not be denied services because of an inability to pay.



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THE JERUSALEM (02) YELLOW PAGES IN ENGLISH



The Jerusalem Yellow Pages Directory in English will shortly be sent free of charge, by mail, to all Jerusalem Post subscribers in the 02 dialing area. It will also be available at all news stands in that area, on September 19, 1997.

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NEWS

in brief

Ben-Yehuda victim's condition worsens

The condition of Daniella Berman, 14, who was severely burned in the Rehov Ben-Yehuda terror attack, has worsened over the past few days.

Doctors at Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, where she is in the intensive care unit, have defined her condition as "extremely serious."

Ilim

Homeless elderly occupy Karmiel center

Some 150 elderly immigrants forced their way into an absorption center for young couples and students in Karmiel yesterday, to press demands for government housing. One woman demonstrated, as about 30 others sat down in the lobby and the remainder went outside to demonstrate.

The center's manager filed a police complaint against Mayor Adi Eldar, accusing him of staging the demo to further his declared aim of converting the center into public housing. There are an estimated 1,800 immigrant families, including the elderly, who lack government housing and claim they cannot afford to continue paying rents that average some NIS 1,400 a month.

Ilim

PM delays firing of Science Ministry staffers

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu acceded to the request of Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom to postpone until October the dismissal of a number of staffers in the Science Ministry, which Shalom is due to take over from Minister Michael Eitan in less than 10 months.

Eitan, who has called for the closing of the ministry - leaving him as science minister but attached to the Prime Minister's Office - wanted to dismiss some staffers as soon as possible, even before a final decision on the future of the ministry is made.

The Knesset Science and Technology Committee will hold an urgent discussion of Eitan's proposals on Wednesday. Committee chairman MK Dalia Itzik has demanded that Netanyahu not make any decisions in the matter until the committee meets.

Judy Siegel

Weizman to Washington in October

President Ezer Weizman will leave for the US on Saturday night, October 4, Beit Hanassi announced yesterday.

The president and his wife, Reuma, will remain in Washington throughout the visit and will meet with US President Bill Clinton, with Vice President Al Gore, members of Congress and Jewish leaders. They will return here in time for Yom Kippur.

Weizman was officially invited to the US capital by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright during her visit here last week.

Batseva Tsor

LEBANON

Continued from Page 1

"Our sons serve in Lebanon. It is inconceivable that the situation that has gone on for 15 years could go on for another 15," she said.

Meanwhile, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak charged that there are definite signs of fatigue in the country.

Talking about the public outcry concerning Lebanon, Shahak said, "There are those who want a quick and clear-cut solution. I don't believe we have an answer that can be implemented quickly without taking risks."

Yesterday's deaths brought to 33 the number of IDF fatalities in Lebanon since the beginning of the year.

The IDF Spokesman said this does not include soldiers killed in accidents. During the same period last year, 20 soldiers were killed in Lebanon.

AP adds: Lebanon has rejected an Israeli proposal to negotiate a security agreement in south Lebanon, the Defense Ministry said.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai approached "a high-ranking commander of the Lebanese army to work out a security agreement that would limit the number of deaths on both sides," said ministry spokesman Avi Benayahu. "Lebanon rejected the proposal."

The offer was made recently through a third party, he said.



St.-Sgt. Ophir Basol



St.-Sgt. Rostan Yosipov

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations extends condolences to its esteemed colleague Ilana Artman on the passing of her brother

MELVIN SALBERG
Malcolm Hoenlein

The Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism
The World Union for Progressive Judaism
Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion
The Israel Council of Progressive Rabbis

offer sincere condolences to our friends

Rabbi Maya Leibovich
on the passing of her mother

HERTA HANA SCHON

and

Rabbi Michael Boyden
on the passing of his father

RUDOLF BOYDEN

May their memories be blessed

4 families move into Ras al-Amud

Action taken after appeals panel gives project go-ahead

By JAY BUSHINSKY
and news agencies

The controversial plan to build Jewish housing in Ras al-Amud on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives will apparently not proceed in the near future, even though an Interior Ministry appeals committee gave it the go-ahead yesterday.

But in a development that could bring more confrontation, four Jewish families yesterday moved into several abandoned apartments there, police and settler sources said.

Baruch Marzel, a leader of the

outlawed Kach movement, said the entry of the families into the building meant "the neighborhood has begun. We don't need a permit to build if we already have a house."

Officials said yesterday government authorization will not be granted until political conditions enable the project to proceed without violent protests or negative diplomatic consequences.

The committee unanimously rejected an appeal by two Meretz city councillors, Ornan Yekutieli and Michal Shohat, to overturn a Jerusalem Municipality decision

to permit Miami-based businessman Irving Moskowitz to build 70 Jewish housing units on a plot he bought there over a decade ago.

But Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's communications chief David Bar-Ilan said the premier would block the plan.

"The prime minister can always block the project. He can always invoke state security or public order," Bar-Ilan said. "This is a government decision, not a committee decision. We decided we were not going to allow private individuals to make decisions affecting the whole country."

Bar-Ilan declared categorically that the consensus reached by the cabinet was "not to build."

Netanyahu came out against the Ras al-Amud plan when the city approved it in July, due to its location in the heart of a densely populated Arab area and given the tense deadlock in Israeli-PLO talks.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the appeal committee's go-ahead, coming just after US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright called for a "time out" on construction, is viewed by the Palestinians as

provocative and amounts to an Israeli rebuke of the top US diplomat.

"This condemned decision which comes amidst Albright's efforts to revive peace talks, is the direct Israeli reply to her efforts," Erekat told Reuters.

"The Israeli response is that they won't stop unilateral actions of settlement building and they will continue their fait accompli policies on Jerusalem," Erekat said.

Yekutieli and Shohat said they would appeal the committee's decision to the Jerusalem District Court.

Albright urges Gulf states to stop fund-raising for Hamas

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright urged Gulf states yesterday to clamp down on fund-raising for Islamic militant groups accused of sabotaging Middle East peace with suicide bombings in Israel.

She also called on the six nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to support long-term prospects for peace by attending a forthcoming Middle East economic summit to which both Israel and Arab states are invited.

And, in an address to GCC foreign ministers, Albright described the recent election of Mohammed Khatami as Iranian president as a "possibly hopeful" development, but said it was unclear if this would lead to changes in Iran.

Later yesterday she met in Jordan with King Hussein, who said the Middle East faced "explosions" unless Arab-Israeli peace talks were resumed from crisis.

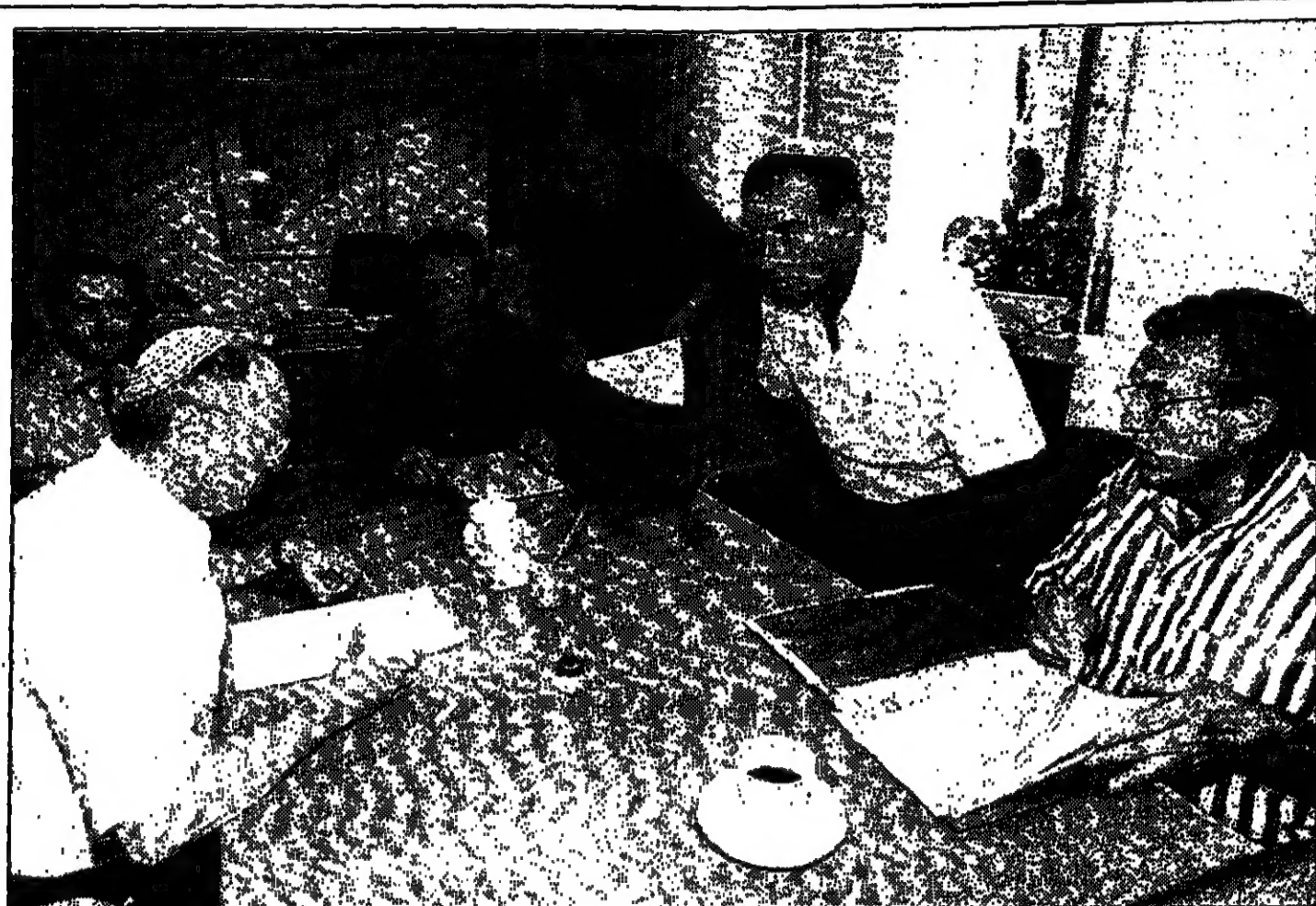
"We can't afford the luxury of time. We cannot sit back. We have to move forward. This is indeed a very, very critical time," King Hussein told a news conference after his talks with Albright.

"More violence [and] the possibility of explosions that might affect hundreds of thousands of people is a reality. There has been enough tragedy, enough suffering, enough loss of life. We are at that critical moment," he said.

Hussein also praised Albright's efforts. "There is something fresh in the air. There is something new in the air," he said. "Someone who speaks the truth, not diplomatically, but accurately."

Albright said in Abha, a mountain resort in southwestern Saudi Arabia, that Arab states had a responsibility to "work against the enemies of peace" and "to do your utmost to ensure that no assistance of any kind reaches the practitioners of extremist violence, such as Hamas."

(Reuters)



Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday reads a letter presented by local council heads from the North.

(Isaac Harari)

Neeman hears complaints from northern council heads

By DAVID HARRIS and Ilim

Settlements along the northern border staged a series of strikes yesterday to protest the government's failure to grant them more money.

The strikes affected education and local authority services all along the border.

The action has also been fueled by the proposed NIS 2.3 billion budget cut for 1998, which the border settlements say is bound

to be implemented in part at their expense.

Local council heads, who had set up a protest tent across from the Prime Minister's Office, met Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday and expressed their dissatisfaction at what they called the government's failure to give them sufficient financial backing.

They seemed satisfied with the meeting, agreeing to take down the tent and give Neeman until

Thursday to make good on his commitments.

According to Ma'alot-Tarshiha Mayor Shlomo Buhbut, Neeman promised to work to assure that the northern communities get what is due them under government decisions made following last year's Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Buhbut also said Neeman had promised to return funds to the local authority budgets that had been cut in this year's budget.

Neeman's spokeswoman, Estie Applebaum, said he had pledged to work with ministerial colleagues to lessen the effects of next year's budget cuts on the North, by asking ministers not to impose cuts that will affect that area.

Later, in a statement, Neeman said that while there are "complicated issues that must be dealt with, the Treasury must assure that the government's declared priorities are maintained."

US
Continued from Page 1

"The prime minister decided on this as a gesture of goodwill, in view of the initial steps taken by the PA in the anti-terror war," an official announcement said.

Evaluating Albright's accomplishments in even more enthusiastic terms, a senior American official said: "There now is a crystallized Palestinian mechanism that will control the issues raised with Arafat."

However, Channel 2 raised a discordant diplomatic note, when it cited influential security sources as saying the Americans have acquired the pivotal position of umpires in the anti-terror effort, empowered to judge the accuracy or relevance of the two sides' claims to success or charges of failure.

Israel also lifted the internal closure of Palestinian-ruled towns and cities in the West Bank imposed

after the last suicide attack in Jerusalem.

"The defense minister and chief of general staff tonight approved the lifting of the internal closure," the IDF Spokesman said.

The closure is to be lifted at 5 a.m. today. A general closure barring Palestinians from entering Israel will remain in force.

Albright herself made no claims of a breakthrough, during a press conference with King Hussein in Amman.

But she has set up some preliminary talks in Washington and New York this month that could eventually pay off. One set of talks will involve Israeli and Palestinian diplomats; the other, Israeli and Syrian.

Meanwhile, Jibril Rajoub, the Palestinian Preventive Security chief, warned Israel against operating in PA-controlled areas.

"We will not allow the General Security Service to conduct any activities inside the autonomous areas," Rajoub said. "Our reply

will be much stronger than what they are expecting and if they succeed once, we will not allow them to succeed again."

Rajoub denied reports that Israeli and Palestinian security officials met over the weekend to discuss cooperation. The last meeting between Israeli and Palestinian security officials was on September 4, he said. Since then, he said, the PA has insisted that a CIA representative attend such meetings.

David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's director of communications and policy planning, confirmed that there was no meeting between Israeli and Palestinian security officials over the weekend. He said, however, that there were "encouraging signs" of security cooperation between the two sides.

Israeli and PA officials also continue to dispute the identities of the suicide bombers in the Mahaneh Yehuda and Rehov Ben-Yehuda attacks. PA secretary-general Tayib Abdul Rahim said that Iran is responsible for both, as well as a

previous foiled bombing attempt on a Tel Aviv beach.

Abdul Rahim said the suicide bombers flew to Israel and although Israel tried to conceal this information by clamping a ban on publishing details of the investigation, the circumstances were relayed to Albright.

The bombs used in all three incidents were of the same type, Abdul Rahim said.

He said Israeli police have discovered that one of the bombers was a light-skinned, blond man who entered on a forged passport and checked into Tel Aviv's Ambassador Hotel.

Abdul Rahim said Israeli police discovered traces of the bomb in the hotel room and they matched the explosives used in Mahaneh Yehuda and Rehov Ben-Yehuda.

Israeli officials, including Netanyahu, have said the bombers were Hamas agents from the territories. They dismiss the PA claims that the bombers were foreigners as disinformation aimed at absolving the PA of responsibility for the attacks.

Speaking at the weekly cabinet meeting, Netanyahu said Albright's visit "focused on the question of the fight against Palestinian terrorism."

He said that as a result, an agree-

ment was reached between the US and the Palestinians regarding a plan to fight the terrorist infrastructure and prevent the release of terrorists under the "revolving door" method, that is, arresting suspects after an incident, then releasing them several days later.

Netanyahu reported to the cabinet on Albright's invitation to Israeli and Palestinian officials to confer separately with American counterparts at the State Department, possibly by the end of this week or early next, and to Foreign Minister David Levy and PA Deputy Chairman Mahmoud Abbas to meet her next week at the UN General Assembly session in New York.

Levy was particularly upbeat about Albright's mission. He dismissed the various media reports that she failed to foster conditions for the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations as "baseless," and contended that "there is no break in contact and no vacuum" between Israel and the PA.

He cited three accomplishments: creation of an efficient apparatus to evaluate the PA's actions against terrorism and the terrorist infrastructure; definition of the subjects to be clarified by the two sides; and convening supportive talks in Washington and New York.

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ZIGY HAHN

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Tuesday, September 16, 1997
at 12:00 noon at the Eretz Hahayim
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His daughters: Aviva, Deborah,
Susan and families,
and Kisane.

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Court hears Abeid appeal

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

Supreme Court President Aharon Barak yesterday convened a nine-justice panel to hear the appeal of the conviction of Suleiman Abeid for the 1993 rape of Hanit Kikos, 17. The Rahat man was originally convicted, by his own admission, of both raping and murdering Kikos, but the court voided the murder conviction two months ago.

Leading the prosecution team is Navah Ben-Or, head of the criminal division of the State Attorney's Office, who brought two videotapes — from four years ago — to court, showing Abeid, 49, reenact his role in the crime. In the tapes, Abeid gives conflicting evidence about how and where he allegedly murdered Kikos.

In the first, Abeid confesses to a sexual encounter, supposedly with Kikos's agreement, in a forest, then relates how he travelled south with her, strangled her en route and threw her out of the vehicle. In the second tape, Abeid confesses to raping and beating Kikos, strangling her, and then hiding her body in the Dudaïm garbage dump where he was employed.

After his arrest, Abeid also told a GSS agent that he raped Kikos and threw her out of his vehicle in a state of semiconsciousness, but at a different location.

Kikos's body had not yet been found when the "admissions" were made. It was recovered only in June 1995, in a drain in a residential area of Beersheba. A DNA test confirmed it was the missing teenager.

Meanwhile, Abeid had been sentenced to life imprisonment for the rape and murder of Kikos, who went missing on her way from Ofakim to Beersheba in June 1993.



A policeman directs defendant Suleiman Abeid to a seat as the Supreme Court yesterday heard the appeal of his conviction for the rape of Hanit Kikos in 1993.

He appealed, but the Beersheba District Court, by a split vote, upheld his conviction.

But in July of this year, the Supreme Court in a surprise move overturned the Beersheba court's original verdict, saying Abeid was not the murderer. The case went back to Beersheba, where Abeid

was sentenced instead to 12 years for rape.

This left open the question of who murdered the youngster. Both the prosecution and the defense once again appealed.

Yesterday, the prosecution asked that Abeid again be convicted of both rape and murder on the basis

of his confessions.

But attorney Avigdor Feldman, representing Abeid, described the two tapes as "fictitious" saying that Abeid, who has a low IQ, had "convicted himself" under duress that he was guilty of the rape and murder. "The body was not found at Dudaïm nor was it found on the

side of the road, so how can he be convicted on the basis of this evidence alone?" Feldman asked.

"Is there not reasonable doubt on the basis of which the court should perhaps not convict Abeid?" Barak asked the prosecution yesterday.

The special panel will hand down its verdict at a later date.

NEWS

in brief

Matza attacks Treasury on health funding

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza yesterday accused the Treasury of pushing through changes in the funding of the health system "clandestinely...and in violation of agreements reached with the Health Ministry."

Speaking to the cabinet, Matza said he had instructed his director-general, Prof. Gabi Barabash, to ask the prime minister and finance minister to amend the decisions and cancel the section setting a "head tax" on patients for using the health system.

"This is just one example of the irregular way of working — instead of an in-depth discussion in the Treasury and integrating it with the Health Ministry's package plan to solve the health funding crisis," Matza said.

Judy Siegel

13 hanged by British remembered

Thirteen members of the pre-state IZL (Irgun Zva'i Leumi) and Lehi (Lohamei Herut Yisrael-Stern Group) undergrounds, who were hanged by the British 50 years ago, were remembered at a ceremony in Tel Aviv last night. Among those who spoke were Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, former premier Yitzhak Shamir, a member of the Lehi Veterans Organization, and Petahia Shamir, chairman of the IZL Veterans Organization.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Obese woman has stomach-reduction surgery

A woman weighing 225 kilos recently underwent successful surgery at Haifa's Rambam Hospital to reduce the volume of her stomach. The patient's very high weight required the hospital to make special preparations in the operating room.

It is not a cosmetic operation, but performed only on patients whose obesity endangers their life. It requires careful follow-up, including a major change in the patient's diet, said Dr. Doron Kopelman, deputy head of the Surgery B department.

Judy Siegel

Youth killed in platform collapse

A youth was killed yesterday when a concrete platform collapsed on him near Beit Guvrin. He was pronounced dead at Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon.

Itim

Palestinian Press REVIEW By MICHAEL SELA

The Palestinian press wavered last week between wishing that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright would take a balanced stand towards both Israelis and Palestinians and later making the gloomy assessment that hers had been a fruitless visit.

Early in the week, newspapers focused on the Palestinian efforts to contribute to the success of the peace process, blaming Israel for the stalemate.

Commenting on the Cairo summit of President Hosni Mubarak, King Hussein, and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, an *Al-Quds* editorial said the meeting was called after Israel had lowered the curtain on the Oslo Accords.

"The summit meeting came as the Arabs and the Palestinians stretch their hands in peace, rejecting any kind of violence and terrorism," wrote *Al-Quds*.

Among those accusing Israel for the failure of Oslo was Faisal Hussein, who spoke at a press conference reported in *Al-Hayat al-Jadida*.

"We do not trust Netanyahu, who killed the diplomatic process with his mistaken policy. He acts alone and does not respect the other party," said Hussein.

Criticizing the Labor Party for its political paralysis, Ashraf Ajrami, in *Al-Ayyam* added another dimension to the criticism of Israel.

The Israeli public understands that Netanyahu's policy aims at ending the peace process, they see the implications of this policy on the security of the Israeli society and its welfare. Nevertheless, there is no opposition on the horizon, Ajrami writes.

Mentioning the stormy right-wing demonstrations against the peace policy of the previous government, "it is difficult to understand the silence," he says.

Ehud Barak has not yet solved Labor's financial crisis, nor has he succeeded in attracting support from broad sectors of society.

"For the time being the party does not have a program to reach the hearts of the public. The failure of the Israeli opposition to influence the peace process... puts

more responsibility on the Palestinians," he writes.

Fearing that Netanyahu will continue as prime minister for a second term, Ajrami concludes that the Israeli political opposition is "an opposition without teeth."

Blame America

Writing in *Al-Ayyam*, Halim Barakat of Georgetown University blames the Americans for the failure of the peace process.

Along the same line, *Al-Hayat al-Jadida*'s publisher, Nabil Amru said, that "the Americans have not yet given the Middle East any proper attention."

On the fourth anniversary of the Declaration of Principles, September 13, Albright's visit was declared by the Palestinian press as a total failure.

"The Oslo Accord, which Netanyahu wants to bury, and which the secretary of state is keeping for cosmetic reasons only, is an outcome of decades of wars and bloodshed," Hafez Barghouti writes in his *Al-Hayat al-Jadida* daily column. "The only alternative is more bloodshed and destruction."

The gap between the hopes pinned on the accord and the current reality has deepened, writes *Al-Quds* in its weekend editorial.

Albright failed in the attempt to overcome the tendency of supporting Israel and its "illegal actions." The result of the visit is "close to zero," it writes, and calls for an international effort to save the Oslo peace process.

Al-Ayyam columnist Abdallah Awwad believes that "America does not bother to prevent a possible confrontation, because its total support of Israel's policy is practically an Israeli declaration of war

supported by America."

The only things left now for the Palestinians to do is, according to Awwad, to invest their energy in "reorganizing the Palestinian home."

"Step by step have all hopes evaporated," according to *Al-Hayat al-Jadida*'s editorial, which summarized Albright's tour on Saturday.

"While the Palestinians stood up to their commitments... the Israelis try again and again to avoid theirs." The Israeli measures "turned our entire people into prisoners in a prison surrounded by soldiers and hunger."

Albright's visit, however, which coincided with the Oslo Accords' anniversary, "totally failed in arousing a feeling that one can trust America as a neutral mediator," according to the newspaper.

Fashion symbolism

Ali al-Khalili in *Al-Quds* wrote about Albright's symbolic dress, noting she wore a white dove brooch on her visit with the Israelis and a decorative belt with Palestinian embroidery when she met with Palestinians.

Referring to possible other symbols during her visit, he mentioned her talk to pupils at an Israeli high school, during which Albright made a comparison between Israel and the US as immigrant societies.

Al-Khalili asked whether this comparison included a symbolic ideology of land confiscation and deportation of the original inhabitants in both countries.

"If she has a language of symbols, what symbols will she be wearing on her next visit? ... But more important, on the brink of an abyss, can the region wait until her next visit?"

IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

Look at the time, winter has arrived

Winter officially arrived in the country yesterday — not on the gales of a blustery cold front sweeping across the Mediterranean, but rather on the strength of a counter-clockwise revolution of the clock.

One hundred and seventy-five days after it began, daylight saving time, or "summer time" as it is known in Hebrew, gave way to "winter time." It may have been a blistering 32 degrees outside, but for those who measure our seasons by the clock, we are fast approaching the dead of winter.

The Knesset decision at the beginning of the year to adopt Interior Minister Eli Suissa's position and cut daylight saving time from 222 to 175 days was greeted with traditional arguments for and against. The debate surrounding the issue has become a ritual, a distinctly Israeli ritual at that, since only in this country could so many people get so worked up over what time it is.

Conventional wisdom has for years held that the issue is a classic religious-secular battleground. The religious and secular are expected to go at it over the clock, just as they are expected to go at it over Reform conversions, or over archeological digs.

Traditionally, the religious parties, especially the *haredi* parties, have opposed a long summer-time period, while the secular parties have been all for it.

The secular politicians always argue that canceling daylight saving times so early — it extends until late October in Europe and the US — is a money waster. By the time the people of Israel roll out of bed in September, this argument goes, the sun is high in

the eastern sky, and the country is literally burning daylight.

The religious generally counter that "summer time" is bad for those who get up early to pray, especially Sephardim who wake up before dawn during the month before Rosh Hashana to recite special penitential prayers.

United Torah Judaism MK Avraham Ravitz, in the unfamiliar roll of iconoclast, smashed the conventional wisdom yesterday when he came out squarely on the side of daylight saving time. "This does not have to be a religious-secular issue," Ravitz said.

Regarding the argument that daylight saving time is inconvenient for Sephardim because of penitential prayers, Ravitz said daylight saving time actually helps them, because they can get up an hour later. "Summer time" means that the sun rises an hour later, meaning morning prayers

start an hour later.

"There is a small percentage of people who say these prayers in the middle of the night, and moving the clock back means they can only say the prayers an hour later. But this is only a very small group," Ravitz said, adding that he does not understand why Shas has made this issue a cause celebre of the religious community.

Shas MK Nissim Dahan dismissed the notion that "winter time" is a cause celebre, or that his party is against "summer time." But, he said, daylight saving time this late in the year is inconvenient for a number of reasons.

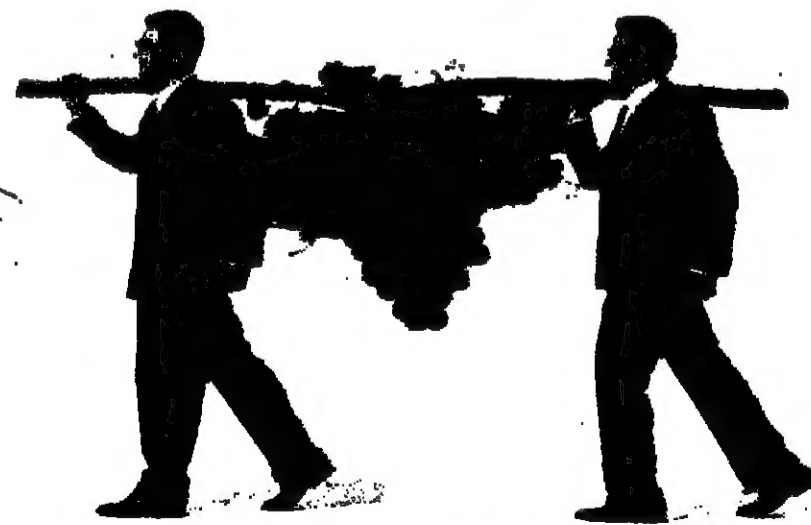
First of all, Dahan said, it leads to more Shabbat desecration, since Shabbat does not end until close to eight o'clock, and "there are many traditional people" who just can't wait that long to begin their weekday activities.

Secondly, he said, it is difficult

for religious families, because Shabbat begins very late, and by the time the head of the household returns from synagogue, the kids are crawling up the wall, not at all in the mood to sit around the Shabbat table.

And finally, he said, daylight saving time extending through October would mean a much more difficult Yom Kippur fast, since the fast would end around seven, rather than six.

Dahan dismissed arguments that daylight saving time saves money because less electricity is used, saying that although lights may be turned on an hour later, air conditioners are kept operating longer. He also said there is no conclusive evidence that daylight saving time is better for the economy, or that it reduces car accidents. Besides, he said, "the Jewish people got by for all these years without summer time. The issue is not that critical."



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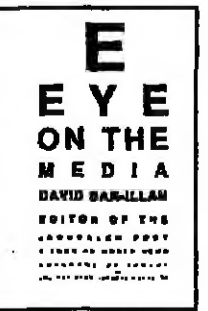
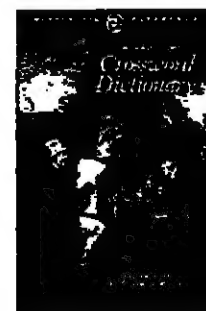
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Ramat Aviv Mall opens

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

As well-heeled shoppers surveyed the elegant stores in the new Ramat Aviv Mall yesterday afternoon, their minds seemed to be on their credit card limits rather than the storm of religious-secular conflict that has surrounded the project.

To judge by the purchases made inside the A.L.M. appliances outlet, fear of debt was not running very high — just a half-hour after opening, manager Sharon Matzov reported that televisions, VCRs, and an assortment of kitchen appliances had already been sold.

"We have high hopes for this store and for the mall in general — it's big, beautiful, comfortable, and in a wonderful location," he added. "We could have lived without the controversy, but we're not worried about it — we'll do fine."

The mall has been the focus of a clash between the owners of the movie theater and the McDonald's branch with the owner of the project, the Africa-Israel Company. The theater owners and McDonald's claim that when they signed their lease, it was with the understanding that they would remain open on Shabbat.

But while the mall was under construction, Lev Leviev, an Orthodox businessman, acquired a controlling interest in Africa-Israel and announced his decision to keep the entire mall closed on Shabbat. The conflict between Africa-Israel and the business owners is under arbitration and a decision is expected by the end of the month.

The fight over Shabbat opening was only the latest controversy surrounding the project. For years, residents of Ramat Aviv battled against the construction of the mall, fearing damage to their quality of



Entertainer Hanna Laszlo tries out a cosmetic spray yesterday at the Ramat Aviv Mall.

(Yael Szmekel/Israel Sun)

life. Aaron and Mali Kahane, observant residents of adjoining Rehov Brodetsky, said they hope the mall will remain closed on Shabbat, but this has more to do with keeping the neighborhood peaceful on the weekend than any religious principles.

"I'm not crazy about any part of the mall being open on Shabbat," said Aaron. "But I'm sure that in the end, the movies and the McDonald's will be open — and I

guess I can live with that."

Other shoppers were vehement. "We're pro-McDonald's! Open the mall on Shabbat!" exclaimed Mira Shalev, 23, and Asht Sagiv, 22. "If it's not open on Shabbat, I'm not going to come here," declared Shalev. "I've got my principles. I believe in freedom."

At Ilan's Coffeehouse, espresso was being served to those already weary of shopping. Owner Ilan Shenav smiled at the irony of how

his life had come full circle: Nearly a decade ago, as a student, he had demonstrated against the construction of the project.

Shenav said he is ambivalent on the Shabbat closure issue. While he strongly supports the right of the movie theater and McDonald's to stay open on Shabbat if that is their choice, and views Leviev's position as a breach of contract, he would never consider keeping his store or any of his other outlets open all

week.

"I'm not religious at all, but I really believe you have to have a day of rest," he said. "If I worked all week, if my employees did, we'd get exhausted and service would be worse, and we'd lose in the long run. I believe that. I need a day to spend with my family, maybe I could grab more money if I stayed open on Shabbat, but I make a good living now, and it just wouldn't be worth it for me."

Smokers sue Dubek for NIS 15 million

By JUDY SIEGEL

Fifteen smokers and families of deceased smokers filed a NIS 15 million suit against the Dubek tobacco company yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court. The plaintiffs asked that the suit be recognized as a class action in the hope that others will join.

Dubek is a government-recognized monopoly that sells most of the cigarettes smoked by Israelis; it markets 95 percent of domestic cigarettes and imports others. Dubek spokesman Ran Rahav said yesterday the company's lawyers could not comment until they receive the documents in the case.

Since 5,500 Israelis die annually of diseases directly attributable to smoking, the number of victims and their families who may be included in a class-action suit could reach 100,000, with as much as NIS 10 billion sought in damages. If so, it would be by far the largest class-action suit in the country's history.

The suit was filed by Tel Aviv lawyers Gidi Frishuk and Alon Geller, who specialize in cases of medical negligence and damage to health. Frishuk said yesterday he expects a class-action suit would be resolved next year, and that the whole issue would eventually reach the Supreme Court.

Frishuk said the people who are dying now from smoke-related causes have been smoking for decades. Because the tobacco companies "lied to customers and introduced nicotine and other additives

that made them more addictive, even people who wanted to stop couldn't," he said.

Michal Asulin, the daughter of a man who died of cancer after smoking four packs a day since his army days, said that on his deathbed he asked her to press his case until Dubek is punished.

Kupat Holim Clalit's legal adviser is currently examining the issue, as in the U.S. health maintenance organizations have joined suits against American tobacco companies.

The Jerusalem Post has learned that Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri asked the State Attorney's Office two months ago to look into the possibility of suing local and foreign tobacco companies for the billions of shekels their products have cost in health care. However, the Justice Ministry informed Benizri just last Thursday that the Health Ministry's legal adviser should have been the one to apply, and not the deputy minister.

Benizri, who was assigned by the health minister all dealings with the anti-smoking effort, said he was furious with the delay. "No one told me all this time that I could not ask the Justice Ministry for this. I will not give up on the subject, even if it costs me my position."

The Health Ministry spokesman said Minister Yehoshua Matza asked to look into all the aspects of such a suit by the government. "We are waiting for the examination to be concluded. Because of the major implications of this matter, great care and responsibility must be used."

Prof.: Yisrael Ba'aliya will pay for failures at next elections

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Yisrael Ba'aliya will pay at the polls for its failure to keep its promises to its voters, according to Hebrew University sociology professor Moshe Lissak.

Lissak was commenting on the sharp criticism directed at Yisrael Ba'aliya's leadership by the party's control committee, which last week called for the removal of the entire leadership and its replacement with an emergency body headed by Knesset faction chairman Roman Bronfman.

The committee, which presented its report at the party's convention in Jerusalem last Thursday, refrained from naming party leader Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, but revealed suspicions of a series of financial and administrative disorders, including waste and lack of supervision.

Sharansky's media adviser Roman Polansky and personal assistant Eli Kashdan each are paid two salaries, one by the party and one by Sharansky's ministry, according to the report. Polansky was unavailable for comment yesterday.

In addition, the report said party members went abroad at party expense, without reporting the purpose of the trip and why it should be financed by the party.

The committee called for removing Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein for failing to improve new immigrants' hous-

ing or employment conditions.

"Yisrael Ba'aliya leaders have failed to deliver on all their promises to the new immigrants," Lissak said, emphasizing that the promises on religious issues and to improve housing and employment conditions.

Yisrael Ba'aliya's leaders acted directly against the interests of their constituents, Lissak noted, by voting for the conversion bill, which threatens many immigrants' chances of becoming Jews.

"There is a conflict of interest between the immigrants, who voted for this party, and its leadership," he said.

Despite Yisrael Ba'aliya's promises, Lissak said, there is no chance of the party's relieving the new immigrants' plight, in view of the dominant religious element in the present coalition.

In addition, a large number of immigrants, especially those over 50, have no hope of finding work in their profession or learning a new one.

"The party's leaders will pay for it in the next elections," Lissak said.

"I doubt they will repeat their previous electoral success. The immigrants' protest will not be expressed in demonstrations, but at the polls."

Lissak said one of the paradoxes of the immigrants from the 1990s is that they are mostly secular and a large number are not recognized as Jews. Yet one of their ministers is religious, and the other has close ties in religious circles.

Lissak also noted that the prevailing rule that the higher the education, the more left wing the politics, does not apply to the Russian immigrants.

Business administration most popular career choice

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Business administration remained the most popular choice of career among the nation's young people this year, according to a poll by the Hadassah Career Counseling Institute in Jerusalem.

However, not all have only money on their minds. The report also showed an increased interest in the fields of education and social work.

A significant drop was reported in the number of young people interested in tourism-related professions, while the social and natural sciences also dropped in popularity.

The survey of 1,010 Israelis in their 20s — 500 men and 510 women — showed the top 10 choices of profession were business administration; communications; economics and accounting; computers; psychology; law; design; industrial engineering and management; social work and education.

Among women, communications was the most popular, followed by design; business administration; psychology; economics and accounting; computers; law; social work; education and psychotherapy.

Among men, business administration was the most popular, followed by computers; economics and accounting; industrial engineering and management; electrical engineering; law; communications; psychology; engineering and design.

Institute director Dr. Yitzhak Garti said young people are sensitive to trends in the economy, explaining the drop in interest in the tourism professions, and the slight drop in those interested in law for fear there will be a glut of lawyers.

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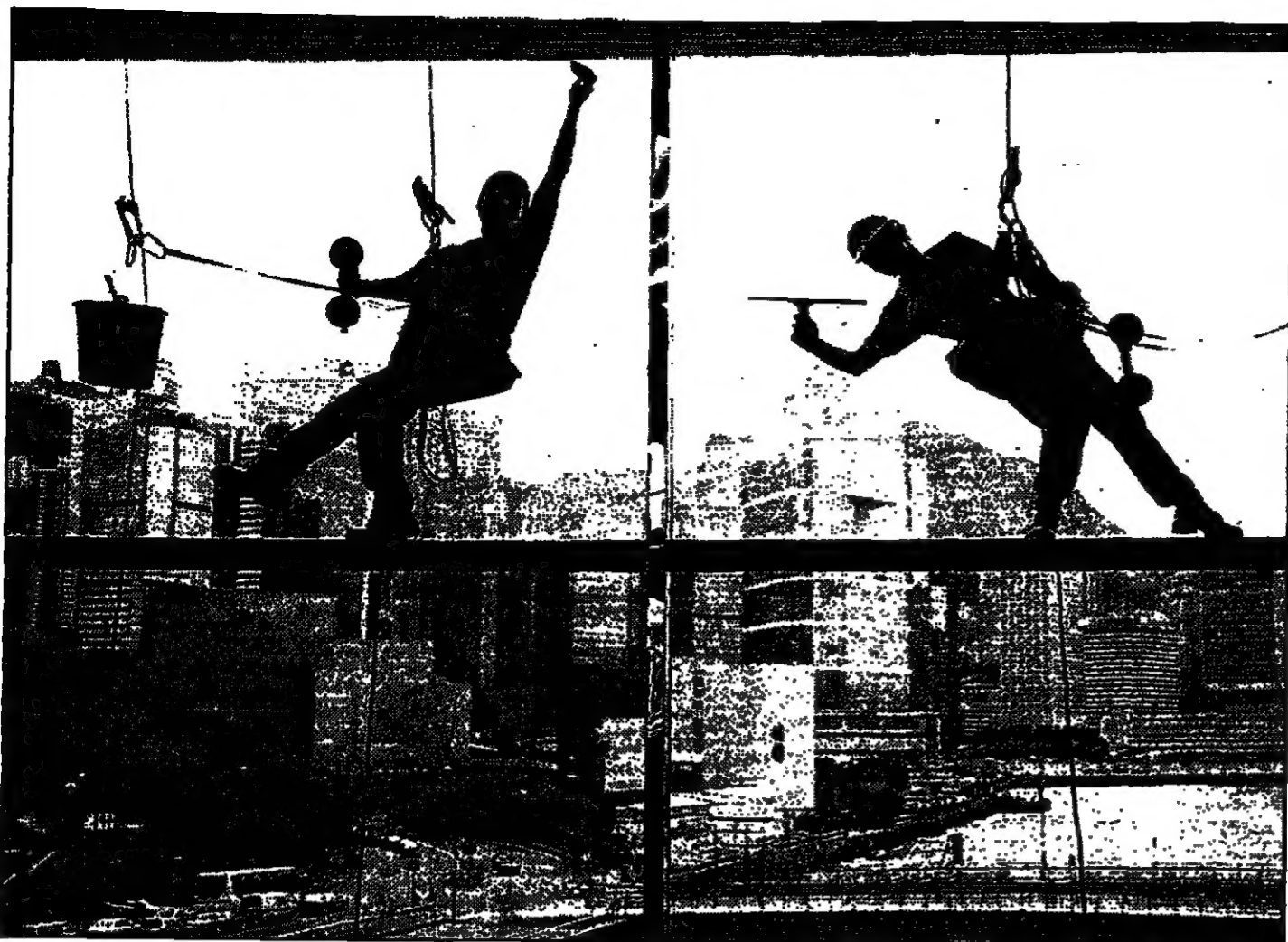
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Hong Kong on show for World Bank's parley



Two workers clean windows at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center last week in preparation for the World Bank/International Monetary Fund annual meeting. (AP)

By PETER HUMPHREY

HONG KONG (Reuters) — Hong Kong is on parade. The financial elite are pouring in for the biggest banking event on the world calendar, bringing the former British colony back under the spotlight just months after its handover to China.

The World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) will hold their joint annual meetings on Chinese soil for the first time, enhancing the status of Hong Kong where East meets West and glittering skyscrapers gaze down on cruise liners and junks.

The event alternates between the World Bank/IMF home city of Washington and overseas venues.

Hong Kong, which Britain returned to China in July after 156 years of colonial rule, is polishing its buttons and oiling its machinery to prove it is as efficient and as free as ever.

While recent currency crises in Asia showed many of the miraculous "tiger" economies of the region going awry, Hong Kong appears to be the one that has got things right — its financial policies and fundamentals are a model.

"Hong Kong is what the World Bank and the IMF would want every country to be," said IMF Deputy-Chief Information Officer Graham Newman.

Its efficient service economy, well-developed financial markets and lack of capital controls, were enviable.

The main meetings are from

September 23 to 25, but the show lasts two weeks. A raft of related events have already begun.

The deans of the financial world will discuss issues such as exchange rate regimes, Asian currency turmoil, China's economic advances, and the growing gap between rich and poor.

For them and the world at large it is a chance to sniff the political air in a Hong Kong that now flies China's red flag.

China has vowed to let Hong Kong remain a free and open financial hub, autonomous in all except defense and diplomacy.

A Hong Kong police chief made clear authorities intended to make sure nothing went wrong. More than 1,500 police have been deployed to protect the conference venue and up to 16,000 dignitaries gathering from 180 nations.

Hong Kong has had no big security crisis since anti-British radicals inspired by China's Cultural Revolution ran riot with guns and bombs in the 1960s. But police are taking no chances.

"We will provide all the appropriate cover to prevent disruption," said Chief Superintendent Tang King-shing, in charge of the police security operation.

He stressed that bodyguards of visiting leaders, including those from China, would not be allowed to carry weapons in Hong Kong and would be restricted to liaising with police.

"The Hong Kong police will have the sole responsibility for

protection of visiting dignitaries," Tang said.

Authorities also intend to show the territory remains tolerant, with people free to protest and demonstrate.

Demonstrations will be allowed, and police will liaise with pressure groups over their plans and decide whether to designate protest areas outside the Convention Center, Tang said.

The same oyster-shaped edifice jutting into the world's busiest harbor was the scene at midnight on June 30 of Hong Kong's reunification with China, presided over by Britain's Prince Charles and China's President Jiang Zemin.

On that occasion police broadcast loud classical music to drown out anti-communist protesters outside.

Chinese Premier Li Peng, widely hated in Hong Kong because of his role in Beijing's Tiananmen Square anti-democracy crackdown in 1989, and China's economic czar Zhu Rongji, tipped soon to become premier, are expected this month.

The VIP list is yet to be completed. But the event will involve 300 finance ministers and central bank governors and 4,000 government officials.

There will be 5,000 corporate chief executives, bankers and financiers, 1,000 representatives of international and regional organizations, 2,000 journalists, 700 World Bank and IMF staff and 1,000 staff of the Hong Kong government.

Enlargement issue to top agenda at EU summit

By DAVID FOX

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — European Union foreign ministers will today hold their first major discussion on the future enlargement of the bloc, but diplomats say no decisions on membership will be taken at the meeting.

"It is a first opportunity to discuss Agenda 2000 [the European Commission's plan for EU enlargement], but we will certainly not be getting into any nitty-gritty at this stage," said one senior EU diplomat.

In July, the commission unveiled a report which showed the EU's executive considers just six countries as being likely to be involved in a first wave of enlargement. The report led to relief among those countries considered possible candidates, but howls of indigna-

tion from those being discounted.

Since then the commission and individual EU governments have been at pains to explain that Agenda 2000 is only a preliminary report, resorting to such language as "ins" and "pre-ins" to describe applicant countries' membership hopes.

"The decision on who actually makes it into the first wave of enlargement only has to be taken at the Luxembourg summit [in December]," one diplomat said. "There is a lot of work to be done yet on the implications for each of these countries and for the current membership."

Cyprus, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Estonia have all been named as frontrunners for EU membership, while Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, and Romania have

been told they need more time to prepare.

During today's meeting — a regular gathering of EU foreign ministers — the EU will also discuss a range of issues from relations with Belarus and Iran to the political situation in the new Democratic Republic of the Congo.

EU sources said the ministers are likely to condemn Belarus for failing to make political reforms and to suspend EU participation in talks between the government of President Aleksander Lukashenko and his opponents.

They are also expected to reaffirm decisions they made earlier this year to oppose Belarus's membership in the Council of Europe, restrict EU contacts with the government, freeze technical assistance unless it involves democracy projects, and suspend negotiations on a

cooperation accord.

EU officials have concluded that Lukashenko, criticized for rewriting the constitution to give himself sweeping powers, is not participating in the reform talks in good faith.

On the Congo, diplomats said ministers would probably criticize Kinshasa for blocking a UN Human Rights Commission investigation into alleged abuses of Rwandan Hutu refugees, but would temper their message with support for some reforms promised by President Laurent Kabila.

Ministers will also hear a situation report from Carlos Westendorp, the UN's high representative to Bosnia, in the aftermath of the first post-war municipal elections since the 1995 Dayton peace agreement.

They were also due to discuss the pos-

sibility of freeing more aid for those organizations in Bosnia's Serb Republic which are cooperating with all aspects of the Dayton peace plans.

Ministers are also likely to consider appeals for financial help from the Palestinian Authority. One diplomat said there is a good chance of the EU finding funds to help the Palestinians, as well as giving them a message of political support.

The meeting is also expected to finalize a long-delayed trade deal with Jordan. Discussions with Amman over its membership in the so-called "EuroMed partnership" have been held up by disputes over Jordan's exports of tomato paste to the EU.

Also on the agenda is the situation in Albania and diplomatic relations with Iran and Nigeria.

Demirel visits Egypt to dampen anger over Israeli ties

By ALISTAIR BELL

ANKARA (Reuters) — President Suleyman Demirel visits Egypt this week in an effort to dampen Arab anger at Turkey's boosting its military cooperation with Israel.

Demirel is expected to tell President Hosni Mubarak tomorrow that plans for naval maneuvers with Israel and the US pose no threat to the Arab world.

"If there is a misunderstanding regarding the Turkish-Israeli relationship, it will be eliminated by us," said a senior adviser to Demirel.

The exercises, set for November in the eastern Mediterranean, are ostensibly rehearsals for joint search and rescue operations. But for many Arabs they carry overtly political messages.

Damascus earlier this month condemned the war games as "a desperate attempt to pressure Syria to change its principled stand" in the peace process.

The Demirel aide denied that Turkey is taking sides in the Middle East dispute after decades on the sidelines.

"Turkey does not have a policy of creating pacts in the Middle East. We believe peace can come to the region only by cooperation among countries," he said.

Turkey's secularist military signed an accord with Israel last year under which Israeli pilots have trained in Turkish skies. The deal was seen as a strategic blow to Syria and Iran, which Ankara accuses of sponsoring Kurdish separatist rebels in its southeastern border regions.

Demirel and Mubarak met last year to discuss Turkey's new ties to Israel, which include a free-trade agreement, which went into effect earlier this year, and high-ranking military visits.

"[Egypt] wants to be assured by the Turkish side that these maneuvers will not be against any Arab country," an Arab diplomat in Ankara said. "They would like to sort this out once and for all."

Mubarak and Demirel are also expected to discuss the search of an Egyptian ship in Istanbul's Bosphorus Strait earlier this month, during a Turkish hunt for anti-aircraft missiles believed to be headed for the Greek Cypriot sector of Cyprus.

Irish unionists postpone decision on participating in peace negotiations

BELFAST (Reuters) — Northern Ireland's Ulster Unionist Party refused to say on Saturday whether it would take part in face-to-face talks with Sinn Fein, adding to uncertainty over the peace process.

But the party, the biggest Protestant grouping in the British-ruled province, signalled it would not completely boycott the all-party negotiations due to start today.

Crisis has gripped the peace process since Thursday, when anti-British IRA guerrillas rejected parts of the Mitchell Principles, a code of non-violence named after the former US senator chairing the talks, which the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein adopted last Tuesday.

After a tense three-hour meeting of top officials, Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble said he had been authorized to take whatever action is necessary.

"The executive is firmly of the opinion that we should ensure one way or another that the unionist voice is heard and that the union is defended," he said. "It authorized therefore the leadership to take what decisions and follow what course of action it considers appropriate in response to the current situation."

Asked if his party would talk directly to Sinn Fein, he said: "Let's see." Trimble added that he and senior colleagues would meet again today to decide what to do.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has struggled to persuade unionists to join the talks, saying

Sinn Fein would be thrown out if Irish Republican Army guerrillas returned to war.

Blair said in a newspaper article that today's talks aimed to bring all the province's feuding parties around the table for the first time and represented "a real opportunity to move forward to a rapid settlement."

Trimble made it clear he was reassured by Blair's pledge that Northern Ireland's sovereignty could not be changed except by the will of a majority of its citizens. The majority are Protestants, traditionally in favor of the union with Britain and opposed to joining the Irish republic to the south.

He said unionists welcomed the assurance that this so-called "principle of consent" was going to be "the guiding principle governing the conduct of the talks."

Analysts say the likeliest option today is for Trimble to avoid face-to-face meetings with Sinn Fein, and instead to hold his own meetings with other participants at the talks venue.

Many members of the Protestant majority, who remain loyal to continued ties with Britain, have voiced fears that the talks could lead to them being railroaded into a Catholic-dominated united Ireland.

Smaller unionist parties like Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists have already pulled out completely from the talks because of Sinn Fein's inclusion.

Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams vowed that his party, representing

many nationalists among Northern Ireland's minority Roman Catholics, would adhere to the Mitchell Principles.

The unionists regard Sinn Fein simply as an extension of the IRA, and are reluctant to talk peace with the nationalists until the IRA guerrillas fighting to end British rule agree to hand in their arms.

Blair, writing in the *Belfast News Letter*, said that Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams has a lot of questions to answer when the negotiations start today.

"No one should be naive about the IRA and Sinn Fein. The two organizations are inextricably linked. One cannot credibly claim to be acting independently of the other. Sinn Fein has signed up to those vital principles," he said.

"We will be held them firmly to these commitments. If they are dishonored, for example, by any return to violence by the IRA or front organizations, let there be no doubt that Sinn Fein will not be able to stay in the negotiations." Sinn Fein insists that it is completely separate from the IRA and has no control over guerrilla arsenals.

The talks are the culmination of a three-year Anglo-Irish peace drive scaled in July by an IRA cease-fire, which Britain says is operating satisfactorily.

Unionists say the cessation is a short term tactic and are furious that London and Dublin have given Sinn Fein a place in talks while guerrilla armories stay intact.



Bosnian democracy

A Bosnian Muslim woman refugee from Visegrad casts her ballot at a polling station in Sarajevo yesterday in municipal elections bitterly contested by Croat and Serb nationalist parties. (Reuters)

Kazakhstan to host military exercises with US

By DMITRY SOLOVYOV

SAIRAM, Kazakhstan (Reuters) — Hundreds of soldiers worked feverishly on Saturday to put the finishing touches to a makeshift camp in southern Kazakhstan which will host participants in military exercises involving the US.

Today and tomorrow, the camp near Sairam will host the first stage of "Centrazbat 97" in which 1,400 troops from the US, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Georgia, and Latvia will take part.

About 500 US paratroopers were to fly non-stop 12,000 km. from North Carolina yesterday and parachute to the Kazakh steppe today in the longest recorded airborne mission.

Their jump will be followed quickly by separate drops of 40 Russian and 40 Turkish paratroopers who will fly in from their countries.

The drop area covers several square kilometers of arid steppe, half-encircled by the foothills of the Tien Shan mountains.

The exercise, held as the NATO

alliance develops its "Partnership for Peace" program of military cooperation with former Communist countries, will continue in neighboring Uzbekistan until September 21.

Kazakh officers who graduated from Soviet military schools and were brought up to view the US as their primary foe, said they are curious about the US paratroopers' performance.

"It will be great to see this exercise and the actions of the US paratroopers. We, the military, must be friends and learn from

each other," Maj. Alexei Shepel said.

During his military career, Shepel has served in East Germany, Russia, and Kyrgyzstan.

"I have never seen an American in real life," he admitted.

The feelings of Kazakh officers match the desire of Kazakhstan's government to open the still little-known country to the West.

The Central Asian state — five times the size of France and populated by just 16.7 million people — seeks to attract Western investment to develop its huge natural

resources.

"Our relations with NATO are going very well and we are fully committed to obligations within the 'Partnership for Peace'... As for the relations with the US, they are very successful," Foreign Minister Kasymzhomart Tokayev told reporters on Friday.

But traces of the Soviet past are still alive in Kazakhstan, especially among those who find themselves impoverished in the bruising transition to a market economy.

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Time for tougher reforms

Among the many proposals for structural reforms Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman has put forward to save the government money, two have sparked particular interest, with good reason. The proposals to finance the defense budget by selling off military properties and to allow yeshiva students to fulfill military service requirements by serving for just one month could both end up providing significant economic benefits. The question is whether both proposals settle for too meager an advancement of the public interest.

The proposal to sell off military facilities that sprawl over expensive urban real estate has been in circulation for some time, and has even been implemented already on a small scale. Anyone driving by Jerusalem's Schneller Base or the Adjutancy Corps Base in Ramat Gan cannot help but realize that the sale of these properties could net the government substantial sums of money, while the same functions could be fulfilled in a fraction of the space outside the city center.

The wonder, if anything, is that such an obvious idea has not been implemented earlier, despite previous government decisions to do so. Neeman's solution was to promise that the net proceeds (after paying for the cost of relocation) from the sale of these properties go directly back into the defense budget, rather than general government coffers.

Neeman calls this putting "a noose around the neck" of the Defense Ministry that will force the implementation of the plan in order to finance needed rearmament, supply, and readiness costs. Neeman rightly points out that for the last 10 years or so, military needs have been neglected while personnel costs and benefits have ballooned.

What Neeman has not explained is why the funds from selling properties would be any more likely to be spent on readiness than on fatter pensions, new commands, and the other personnel costs that have increasingly absorbed defense funds over the past few years. Nor has he adequately explained why the cardinal rule of privatization—that the profits be used to pay off debts and not to finance ongoing spending—is not being followed in this instance.

When asked why this is being treated differently than the sale of part of Bank Hapoalim, for example, Neeman argues that there is a difference. The sale of a government-owned company converts a productive public asset into a productive private one, while the sale of an army base converts an economically dead entity into a productive asset.

base converts an economically dead entity into a productive asset.

But this argument simply strengthens the case for selling off the properties, without explaining where the profits should go. If the profits are funneled back into ongoing expenditures, the effect is to negate the budget cuts by the same amount. Far from forcing the Defense Ministry to confront the overblown personnel costs that Neeman decried, the selling off of property could end up delaying real reform for years.

The selling off of urban bases is certainly a positive step under almost any circumstances, and will lead to long-term benefits for the economy in any case. The Defense Ministry, however, should not have to be bribed with the profits in order to carry out this common sense reform, particularly when there is the added danger that other critical reforms will be put off.

So too, Neeman's concept for reform of the yeshiva exemption for military service goes in the right direction, but does not aim high enough. Currently, many students stay in yeshiva longer than they desire or can afford in order to reduce their requirement for military service. Already, by staying in yeshiva until they are over 24 and are married with children, their requirement drops from three years to four months. Neeman is reportedly proposing dropping this requirement immediately to one month, and dropping reserve duty entirely.

As is, this Neeman proposal would result in more yeshiva students going earlier into the workforce, reducing the financial burden on both the state and the haredi community. Neeman does not explain, however, why the yeshiva exemption should not be parallel to existing arrangements for small numbers of outstanding university students who are allowed to postpone service in order not to break up their academic career.

Even many secular Israelis believe that the spirit of Ben-Gurion's original arrangement with a yeshiva world, in which a small number of scholars would do their part to "defend the state" through the study of Torah, should remain part of what it means to be a Jewish state. To the extent that Neeman's proposal would reduce the abuse of this arrangement, it is welcome. But it also leaves an unpleasant taste in that it further legitimizes the distinction between the haredi community and the rest of Israel, without explaining why haredim who are not devoting their lives to scholarship should have any less obligation to defend the state than any other citizens.

Assad must pay a price

YOSSI OLMERT

Israel's strife in Lebanon started over 20 years ago, when in 1976 the late Yitzhak Rabin first grappled with the ever-deteriorating Lebanese civil war. A lot has happened since then in the Middle East and, of course, in Lebanon. Yet Israel is still bogged down in the Lebanese quagmire, with no solution in sight. The cumulative experience of these

(in south Lebanon or in Judea and Samaria.) It relates to the entire land of Israel and Hizbullah's spokesmen make no bones about it. Who can seriously guarantee us that after a withdrawal from south Lebanon, the Iranians and Hizbullah will cease their armed struggle against Israel? They themselves repeatedly refrain from giving out a guarantee.

Then there are the Syrians. Hafez Assad has already won the battle for Lebanon, and this country is for all intents and purposes a Syrian colony, if not by name then in reality. He is now after his other great dream: the return of the Golan Heights, lock, stock and barrel, to Syrian sovereignty.

Putting pressure on Israel from south Lebanon, through proxy, is clearly in Assad's best interests, with an objective of forcing Israel into negotiations over the Golan, precipitated by Israel's inability to extricate itself from the Lebanese mess.

The Netanyahu government tried its luck with the obstinate Syrian leader and offered him the formula of "Lebanon First," a unilateral Israeli withdrawal in return for agreed security conditions, but was rebuffed. Assad's rationale was that such a formula will give Israel a much-needed truce in south Lebanon, but will not get Syria any nearer to the recovery of the entire Golan Heights.

It follows that the advocates of a unilateral Israeli withdrawal should be coherent and decent enough to tell the Israeli public that the price of any settlement between Israel and Syria in Lebanon is the surrender of the Golan. I believe that it is safe to say that an overwhelming majority of the Israeli people objects to such a settlement.

Syria, for its part, has never made any pledge, not even an ambiguous one, that Hizbullah's activities against Israel will cease completely in the event of an Israeli withdrawal. Clearly,

Our leaders should expand the confrontation in Lebanon beyond the limits of the security zone

long years shows clearly that in Lebanon there are always harsh realities and tough choices.

It is precisely for this reason that in times of predicaments, political which doctors find it profitable to come up with their magical and quick solutions.

The latest such initiative is the new movement established recently calling for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon. The bitter historic lesson is that intricate, bloody and prolonged conflict is never resolved magically and quickly, particularly not in the Middle East. Just recently, on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the ill-fated Oslo Accords, we received more painful reminders that in our part of the world old conflicts die slowly, if at all.

The basic problem facing us in Lebanon is that both Iran and Syria, the twin godfathers of Hizbullah use the Shiite fighters to pursue policy goals which are not necessarily linked to the Lebanese situation.

Iran is the bearer of the Holy War (Jihad) cause against Israel. This cause is not limited to the territories

Dry Bones



the Syrians retain the Hizbullah card for such a time when pressure on Israel with regard to the Golan will be the order of the day. Since Syria provides Hizbullah with its logistical and territorial basis and is in virtual control of Lebanon, Syria is the key to any solution of the Hizbullah problem, which is not an undignified Israeli retreat.

SYRIA'S main interest in Lebanon is to continue the atmosphere of peace and prosperity which prevails in the part of the country north of the security zone. A stable Lebanon is an asset for Assad, whereas a troubled Lebanon is a threat for Syria, like it was until the late 1980s.

Israeli leaders repeatedly state that if there is no peace in south Lebanon and northern Israel, there will be no peace in the rest of Lebanon. Isn't it about time that our leaders make good on their statements/threats, and consistent-

ly pursue a policy of expanding the confrontation in Lebanon beyond the limits of the security zone?

This is not a risk-free policy in a land full of hazards and dangers. However, it is the only policy which stands any chance of motivating Assad to reconsider the use of Hizbullah against Israel.

When Assad pays no price for Hizbullah's aggression he is adamant against any concessions. If he knows that some of his vital interests in Lebanon are at stake, he may be more willing to negotiate with us about an honorable Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon. The current situation puts him under no pressure and seems to offer him tangible political and possibly military advantage.

For Israel, the current impasse offers only blood, sweat and tears. A change of policy is, therefore, much needed, but not a panic escape.

The writer, a former head of the Government Press Office, is an expert on Syria.

'No' to an unverifiable ban

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

The abolitionists, of course, have a real concern: civilians who accidentally walk into minefields, sometimes long after a conflict has ended. Hence the heart-wrenching pictures of children wounded by mines in places like Angola, Bosnia and Vietnam.

But what would their treaty do?

weapon. Why, even special forces—commandos trying to blow up, say, a biological weapons factory in some rogue nation—would be prohibited from using small, smart mines to protect themselves from and alert them to enemy attack.

What about the old-style land mines? We do not generally use

For countries surrounded by friends, a land mine ban is a lovely opportunity for moral display.

There are two kinds of land mines. The first kind are "smart" mines. The United States uses these almost exclusively. Unlike the old dumb kind which remain active in the ground forever, these are short-duration, self-destructing and unbelievably reliable (99.996 percent—that's 0.004 percent less reliable than God). Yet the Oslo conferees would ban them completely.

Why? Banning these devices will have no effect on civilian casualties. In 1995 and 1996 not a single civilian anywhere on earth was injured by a smart US land mine. But it will have a serious effect on the safety of US soldiers in the field.

As noted in a letter to the president signed by 24 retired four-star generals, a ban would gratuitously deprive US troops of an important defensive

them. We do not even manufacture them anymore. But they are extremely important for us in one place, Korea, the most dangerous spot on the globe. Thousands are strewn across the demilitarized zone to deter the world's most heavily fortified, most aggressive and most irrational regime.

No one lives in the DMZ. The only people who are going to get blown up treading on an American mine are the North Korean infiltrators or North Korean battalions headed south to kill our soldiers.

The United States has insisted that it must have an exception for Korea. Naturally, our delegation has been mercilessly pummeled for this insistence. No exceptions, say the abolitionists—if the United States asks for exceptions, so will others.

Indeed, they will—and for good reason. Take Finland, for example. A nation twice invaded by Russia across an exposed 800-mile border is not about to give up one of the most important means of deterring and forestalling invasion.

Attacked for his statist view on retaining the means to defend his country, the Finnish prime minister was tart: "I heard somebody ask, 'Do other Nordic countries want Finland to be their land mine?' It is very convenient."

Exactly. For countries surrounded by friends, sheltered by allies (i.e., us) and facing no serious possibility of war (Sweden, lying to Finland's west, is hardly going to be invaded by its neighbors), a land mine ban is completely costless—and a lovely opportunity for moral display.

For serious countries facing serious risks, however, a land mine ban could be a fatal luxury. The United States (in Korea) has a front line. It needs land mines. Finland has a front line. It needs land mines.

It is the safe and the parasitic—those countries living comfortably behind the protection of others who act as their shield, their land mine—who do not need land mines. It is they who are leading the charge against those, like the Americans and the Finns, who must calculate how many of their soldiers will die on the altar of yet another disarmament delusion.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

POSTSCRIPT

MILLIE IS DEAD. Millie, a springer spaniel who was first dog in the Bush White House and namesake of a book that offered a dog's-eye view of the presidency, passed on at the Bush summer home in Maine. She was 12.

The Bushes were reportedly in a state of shock.

Mildred Kerr, the Bushes' long-time friend who was Millie's namesake, said the dog was loved so much by the Bush family. "They always named their pets after friends."

I was just lucky enough to be chosen; it was a real honor for me to have a first dog named after me," she said.

Barbara Bush actually wrote the 1990 best-selling *Millie's Book*, ostensibly dictated by the dog, whose full name was Mildred Kerr Bush.

The book sold more than 300,000 copies in its first year and raised nearly \$900,000 for the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

Millie gained considerable notice when she gave birth to four puppies in the White House in 1989. Bush said she was banished to Abe Lincoln's bedroom during the later stages of Millie's pregnancy because the dog refused to go to the doghouse.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SYMBOLS OF WAR

Sir, - I am amazed that no political commentator has drawn the public's attention to the military-style uniform worn by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

When one goes from a state of war to one of peace, leaders of the conflict change their clothing to civilian wear. When officers leave the military for a civilian job, they also change to more appropriate clothing. What would journalists be saying if Ezer Weizman, Ariel Sharon, Rafel Eitan, Ehud Barak and Benjamin Netanyahu contin-

ued to wear their army uniforms? Even President Mubarak of Egypt and President Hafez Assad of Syria are military men who now wear civilian clothing in their positions as heads of state.

Yasser Arafat continues to wear his uniform despite a personal letter to Prime Minister Rabin in September 9, 1993, stating that the PLO commits itself to a peaceful resolution of the conflict between the two sides and renounces the use of terrorism and other acts of violence. His clothing

ing, however, signals that he continues to be a man of violence. The attire clarifies the meaning of his words about "all options being open," the embrace of a Hamas leader and the regular performance of marching past is armed minions.

Until we see a change in Arafat's symbols of war, only the confused would think that he believes in a peace process.

ALBERT I. GOLDBERG

Jerusalem.

VOX POPULI

Sir, - Your editorial (Sept. 12) castigating the president for telling the secretary of state to push the prime minister to be reasonable was mistaken. Just as there is nothing in the Oslo agreements to stop building on Har Homa, there is nothing in law to stop our elected president from giving his opinion.

Our head of state, a man of out-

standing record, has experience in making peace. And as an official voted in by a large majority of the Knesset, his opinion is probably the closest thing we have to vox populi. It is only fitting that he speak.

If a president is not to have an opinion, we may as well abolish the office. The recent electoral

reform has already gutted the significance of his work. A president as only a mute figurehead is an unnecessary and expensive luxury and an insult to any person of distinction holding the title.

PETER HIRSCHMANN

Haifa.

DONE IT AGAIN

Sir, - Sam Orbaum has done it again! His recollection of Paul Henderson's dramatic goal of the 1972 Canada-USSR hockey tournament (Sept. 12) is another gem to add to the long list of outstanding articles. Even if you

were't there, you could feel the excitement of the series, the emotional ups and downs, and the moment of sport history in the making.

No one tells it like Sam, whether about the Canadian win-

ter, hockey night in Metulla, or the secrets of life in Israel. Bravo!

MOSHE TOREM

Kibbutz Sde Eliahu.

SUDDENLY FEEL JEWISH

Sir, - Reform and Conservative Jews hold that anyone who feels Jewish is Jewish. What would they do if the 300,000 Romanians, Filipinos, Ghanaians and other foreigners in this country sudden-

ly decide that they "feel" Jewish and demand all the rights then owed them by the Israel government under the Law of Return? What about a million Arabs from around the world who also sud-

denly "feel" Jewish and decide to immigrate?

MIRIAM ADAHAN

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Yom Kippur was observed on September 15, 1937, and the Rosh Hashana on September 15 and 16, 1947.

25 years ago: On September 15, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Syria was getting Sam-3 anti-aircraft missiles and an unspecified number of MIG-21 interceptors. In return the Soviets were granted facilities in two Syrian Mediterranean ports, which had until then the

status of ports of call only.

Two soldiers were wounded on Mt. Hermon when their patrol clashed with a terrorist gang.

In Brussels Israeli Embassy official Ziad Ophir was wounded by a terrorist, former Moroccan Army officer Hassan Joudat.

The Soviet Union for the first time came out with an official admission that the ransom tax on college graduates emigrating to Israel existed.

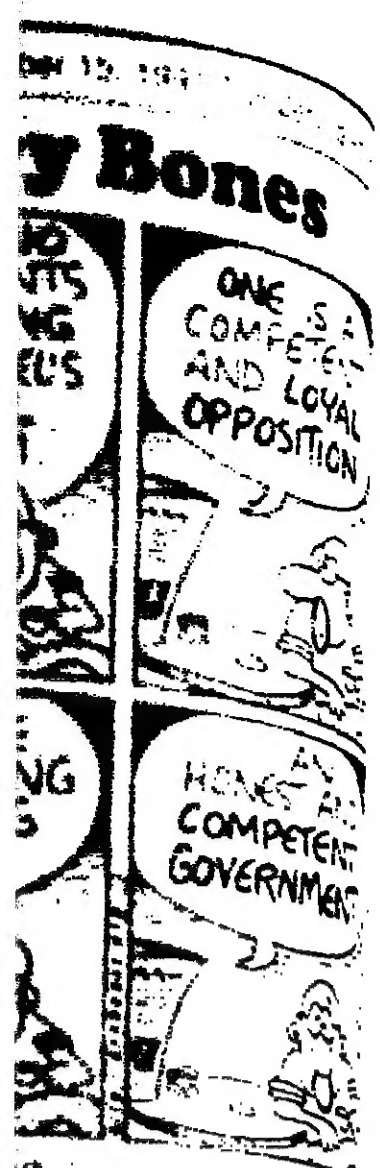
In Bonn West Germany announced that weapons used by Arab terrorists in the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes in Munich were of Russian manufacture. Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny said that the killing of the Israeli athletes at Munich could not justify the "treacherous gangster actions" of Israeli raids into Lebanon and Syria. Beit Alfa celebrated its 50th birthday.

Alexander Zivelli

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



The famous "UFO incident" at Roswell, New Mexico, occurred 50 years ago. Juan Bravo, of Roswell, describes the autopsy of an alien during a reenactment of the alleged crash of the creature from outer space. Roswell was a UFO convention to mark the anniversary.



ble ban

POSTSCRIPT

Scold War

Yelling At the Little Red Menace

By PETER APPLEBOME

Testing fourth graders in reading and eighth graders in math, however important, doesn't sound like that incendiary idea. But the rancorous debate over President Clinton's proposed national test, which was alternately depicted as part of a Federal takeover of education, a pathway toward a dumbed-down curriculum and a sure way to stigmatize and penalize ethnic minorities and the poor, was a vivid reminder of just how impossibly politicized the national educational debate has become.

More than a decade after the landmark "Nation at Risk" report warned that America's lagging schools represented an "act of unthinking unilateral educational disarmament," it is worth asking how the Little Red Schoolhouse came to replace the Evil Empire as the biggest threat to the nation's security, and whether there is any way to slow the rhetorical arms race.

The short answer to the first question, coming at a time when Mr. Clinton appears in schools so often that he seems to be running for P.T.A. president, is that the nationalization of educational politics, the increasingly clear link between education levels and economic well-being and a shortage of competing perils have made schooling ground zero for many of the nation's most charged cultural and political issues. If there's a short answer for the second, no one has come up with it yet.

At the least, however, the escalating school wars

School politics is moving to Washington, so education is now a battlefield strewn with casualties of cultural conflict.

over issues ranging from curriculum to teacher standards to school prayer are evidence of a fundamental tension certain to persist as efforts to improve national educational performance butt up against the fierce localism and sense of independence that have always characterized American education.

"Schooling is much more like religion than it is like economic policy or public policy," said Stephen Arons, a professor of legal studies at the University of Massachusetts and the author of "Short Route to Chaos: Conscience, Community and the Re-Constitution of American Schooling" (University of Massachusetts Press, 1997). "When you treat schooling as if it were a question strictly of public policy you wind up with the same kinds of problems you would have if you tried to create a state or national religion. This has been an issue since the 1840's, but for various reasons it's an issue now like never before."

The Senate last week approved Mr. Clinton's proposal for the first national test of individual student achievement after an amendment took control from the Education Department and gave it to an independent, bipartisan board. But the House, where opposition has been focused thus far, seems likely to approve a proposal next week that would bar Federal funds for the test, which is bitterly opposed by Bill Goodling, Republican of Pennsylvania, chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

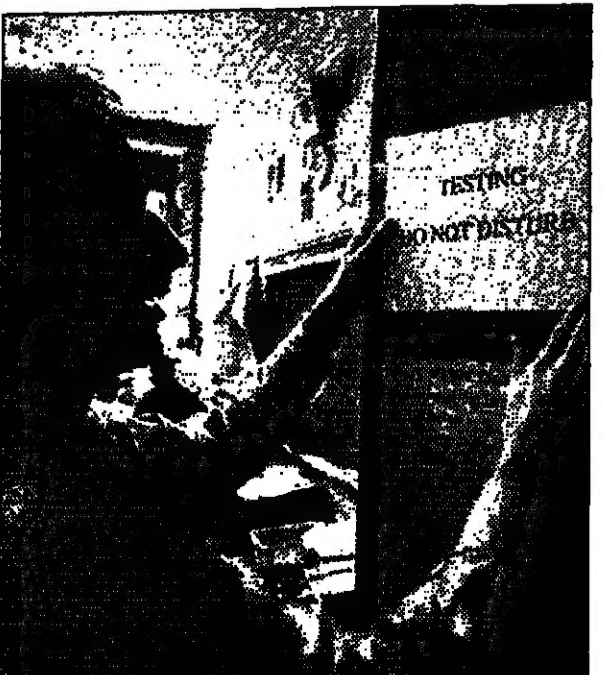
As Mr. Arons notes, educational politics did not begin with the current culture wars. Horace Mann and the other crusaders for mass public education in the 1840's said the nation's future depended on better schools that would instill both learning and moral values. Numerous education reform eras were to follow, some of which, like the Sputnik scare of the late 1950's, made education an issue of national security.

Still, the current moment is extraordinary, education experts say. While education is always a potentially volatile subject, the public animus toward schools and educators that is now taken almost for granted is relatively new. When the Gallup Poll asked for criticisms of the schools in 1946, 40 percent of respondents could not come up with anything to complain about.

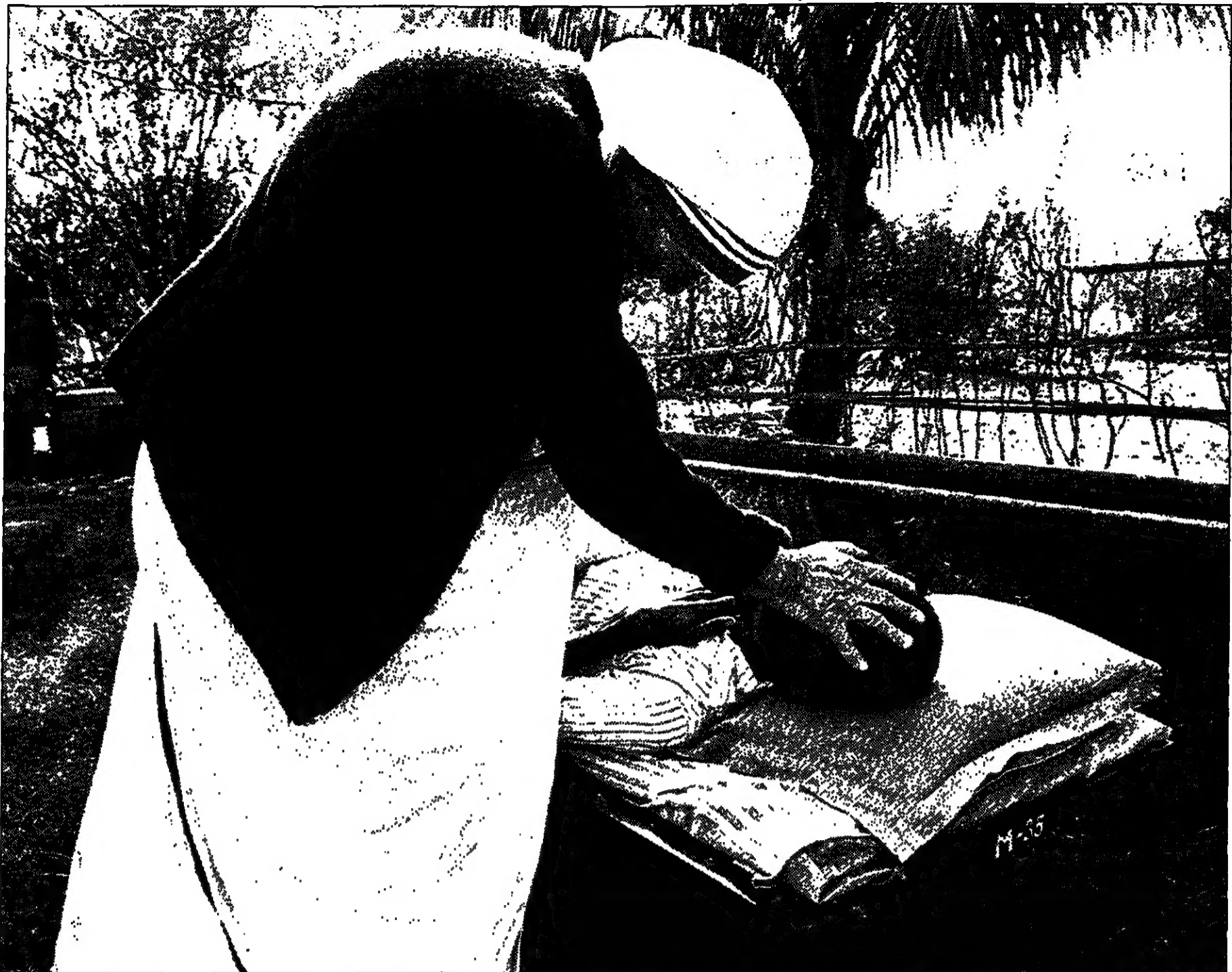
Many things have changed since then.

The increasing education presence in Washington, which has grown enormously through the Clinton Administration's Goals 2000 program to determine national standards, has brought armies of Congressional staffs, public relations experts and advocates of all stripes campaigning for maximum political advantage. On that national grid at least four major forces — businesses clamoring for national standards, the institutionalized web of education organizations that conservatives call "the Blob," religious conservatives and advo-

Continued on Page 3



Testing is under attack, and not just from students.
Michelle V. Agins/The New York Times



Among the good works cited by her many supporters, Mother Teresa ministered to the sick and the dying at her mission in Calcutta.

Mary Ellen Mark

Not if, but When

Naming a Saint Isn't So Simple

By CELESTINE BOHLEN

DURING the early centuries of Christianity it was often enough to be saintly to be declared a saint, sometimes by popular acclaim. It was only later, starting in the 12th century, that the Roman Catholic Church moved to bring the bestowal of sainthood under control, instituting strict and lengthy procedures to determine who is, and who isn't, worthy to be venerated as a saint.

Last week, as people all over the world mourned the death of Mother Teresa, the diminutive nun noted for her selfless devotion to the poor and the dying, the church sent signals that in her case it might once again bend to the popular will, and put her on a fast track to sainthood.

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, one of the most powerful men in the Vatican and the chief guardian of Catholic doctrine, told reporters last week that the life of Mother Teresa was "so lucid, limpid and transparent" that the process of canonization — or declaration of sainthood — should not take long. "I am not privy to the innermost thoughts of the Holy Father," said Cardinal Ratzinger, referring to Pope John Paul II, "but I think he wants it speeded up."

In the eyes of the church, of course, a saint is made by God, not by the Vatican. But as one of the few churches and religions that still regularly confers sainthood, the Catholic Church, acting through its Congregation for the Causes of Saints, generally chooses caution over emotion, waiting years, even decades or centuries, before moving ahead with canonization or with beatification, the first stage of a candidate's road to sainthood.

Pope John Paul II, in his 19-year papacy, has done much to open up the process of canonization, and by relaxing some requirements he has contributed to a remarkable proliferation of new saints and blessed, many from parts of the world that had been previously overlooked by the church. As of 1995, according to the latest full report issued by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, the pope had canonized 276 saints and beatified 768 people, making him by far the most prolific saint-maker in history. He has eclipsed the 20th-century record of Pius XII, who beatified 23 individuals and canonized 33.

While the Catholic church venerates several thousand saints altogether, the large majority — and many of the best known, including early Christian martyrs — were declared during the church's first millennium, before the process was first brought under Vatican control by Pope Alexander III in 1170.

The naming of new saints has been an important part of Pope John Paul II's papacy, described as a "gift for local churches" that he has often brought with him on his many pastoral visits around the world. It is one of the paradoxes of this papacy that Pope John Paul II, in his evangelical zeal to broaden the base of the church, has relaxed the rules for sainthood while at the same time reasserting a strict interpretation of doctrine in other areas, particularly those regarding sexual issues like birth control and the ordination of women priests.

But even under this pope, canonization and beatification are slow, laborious processes. Although some of the church's new saints were born in this century, many others have been awaiting the church's official blessing for hundreds of years. On his last trip to Poland in May, the pope canonized Queen Jadwiga, a revered figure from the 14th century. On a trip to Moravia in the Czech Republic in 1995, he canonized a 17th-century priest who had been tortured to death during the religious wars that followed the Counter Reformation.

In 1992, when Monsignor Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer, the founder of the conservative Catholic movement Opus Dei, was beatified 17 years after his death, critics considered the process overly hasty. It took 28 years to canonize France's immensely popular St. Therese of Lisieux after her death in 1897, and in its

Still, by opening the canonization process, this Pope has been the most prolific saint-maker ever.

day that was a modern record. There are many other cases of proposed beatifications — including those of Archbishop Oscar Romero, murdered in El Salvador in 1980, and several popes, including John XXIII and Pius XII — that are still on hold, in some cases because their causes are too controversial.

Mother Teresa may be the rare exception, a person who within days of her death has been judged publicly by several top Vatican officials to be an almost certain candidate for sainthood. The issue, it seems, is not whether Mother Teresa will become Saint Teresa but when. "I think there are cases that are so clear that even the ordinary procedure can move more swiftly," said Cardinal Ratzinger, who heads the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

On his way to Calcutta to attend yesterday's funeral for Mother Teresa as the head of the Vatican state, Angelo Cardinal Sodano noted that it only took

two years for St. Francis of Assisi to be canonized and just one year for St. Anthony of Padua, two of the church's most beloved saints who lived during the Middle Ages.

But both St. Francis and St. Anthony became saints before the Vatican standardized the procedures for canonization in 1642, instituting the intermediate stage of beatification. Normally, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints waits at least five years after a person's death before it begins to examine a petition for beatification brought by a candidate's local bishop.

A "postulator" is then appointed to argue the cause, seeking evidence of the candidate's holiness and examples of "heroic" virtues. In the case of Mother Teresa, the postulator would probably be a member of the Missionaries of Charity Order, which she founded. People who knew her would be questioned, and her writings would be subjected to a theological examination. If she is found worthy, the pope would issue a declaration that allows her to be called Blessed, and she could be venerated in her local community. Only after sainthood is declared would she be venerated throughout the church.

Until 1983, beatification required two miracles, and canonization another two, except in the cases of martyrs. But in a change instituted by Pope John Paul II as part of his effort to open the doors to sainthood, just one miracle is required for each step on the road to saint-

Continued on Page 4

Marketing Diana

For some time, it seems, the world will not be able to get away from Diana — whether it wants to or not. Newspapers and magazines are putting out special issues, and dozens of books are in the works.

By Sarah Lyall

Genetic Testing

Information so powerful that it will have to be handled with care.

By Nicholas Wade

Backlash

Everybody's for free trade, except when they're against it.

By David E. Sanger

Letter of the Law

Political corruption, by the book.

By David E. Rosenbaum



4

2

3

3

The Nation

Selling Favors Is Allowed. Just Follow the Rules.

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

WASHINGTON

ONE of the cases that the Senate committee investigating campaign finance practices considered last week entailed the very essence of corruption but was entirely within the law.

Roger Tamraz, an international wheeler-dealer, gave \$300,000 to the Democratic Party for last year's election campaign. Despite warnings from the National Security Council that he had a "shady and untrustworthy reputation" and should be avoided, Mr. Tamraz's contribution enabled him to get an audience with President Clinton to press his case for American support for an oil pipeline he wanted to build in Asia. In addition, evidence showed, Donald L. Fowler, the national chairman of the Democratic Party, contacted the Central Intelligence Agency on Mr. Tamraz's behalf.

The other ruin case that the committee focused on last week may have involved a violation of the law, but it could hardly be called corruption.

Vice President Al Gore made dozens of phone calls from his White House office to solicit money that went directly into last year's Presidential campaign. The calls may well have broken a law dating back to 1883 that makes it illegal to raise campaign money in a Federal building. The purpose of the law is to protect Federal employees from being dunned on the job. If Mr. Gore had gone outside and used a pay phone, the calls would have been perfectly legal.

The possibility that Mr. Gore broke the law could lead to the appointment of a special prosecutor. His supporters have been embarrassed by his changing explanations of what he did and how he interprets the law. His political career may be damaged. But even his harshest critics do not argue that the phone calls were corrupt.

The two cases illustrate the anomalies of a campaign finance law under which the crux of political corruption — the buying and selling of political favors — is often acceptable while the failure to abide by arcane rules can be punished.

"We have a system," said Donald F. Kettl, a political scientist at the University



Vice President Gore, who has been bruised by accusations of campaign-finance violations, at an A.F.L.-C.I.O. meeting last weekend.

of Wisconsin, "that wonderfully regulates parking violations and rarely deals with reckless speeding on the highways." Mr. Kettl was the chairman of a commission set up by Gov. Tommy Thompson to recommend changes in Wisconsin's elections laws.

The Biggest Gifts

The problem with the Senate hearings, Mr. Kettl said, is that they have not dealt with donations that truly affected the outcome of last year's elections, like the large sums of

money that companies and unions gave legally to the political parties.

These donations often seemed to lead directly to results. For instance, the American Trial Lawyers Association donated more than \$3 million during the campaign, almost all to the Democrats. When the Republican Congress passed a bill to limit the liability of companies that made faulty products, legislation directed at the livelihoods of trial lawyers, President Clinton vetoed it.

The tobacco companies gave more than \$10 million, mostly to Republicans, and got a

\$50 billion tax break in the tax and budget legislation Congress adopted last month.

Of course, the campaign donations might have had nothing to do with the veto or the tax provision. The President and the Republican Congress could have decided the cases strictly on their merits. But doubtless the trial lawyers and tobacco companies thought donations helped their causes or they hardly would have contributed so much.

"The public knows the system stinks," said Anthony Corrado, a political scientist at Colby College in Maine who specializes in

campaign finance issues. "They know that wealthy corporations and unions and individuals are giving huge amounts of money to politicians, and they believe they are getting something in return."

To the public, said Mr. Corrado, this is much more important than the narrower questions the Senate committee has been delving into. That is why, he said, so few people are paying attention to the hearings.

The latest polls show that fewer than one person in eight is very interested in the hearings. In a CBS News poll over the summer, the number of people who said the Congressional investigations were partisan efforts to damage President Clinton was double the number who said the investigations were trying to get to the bottom of flaws in the campaign finance system.

On Wednesday, a House committee headed by Representative Dan Burton, Republican of Indiana, will begin a parallel set of hearings on campaign finance, and the scene of dueling hearings on two sides of the Capitol may generate more interest. But Mr. Burton has said that his hearings, too, will focus on what is illegal rather than on what is corrupt.

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut, a Democrat who has often joined Republicans on the investigating committee in criticizing the Clinton Administration, agreed that "the biggest scandals may be legal," but he said he thought the Senate hearings had demonstrated how an imperfect system had run amok last year.

"We ended up with a system," Senator Lieberman said, "where there was such a voracious appetite for money that the Vice President — the Vice President of the United States — was forced to call people and ask them for money."

Unfortunately, he said, "the law sometimes punishes people for deeds that don't seem very wrong and exonerates people for deeds that seem egregious."

Kenneth Gross, a former chief of enforcement at the Federal Election Commission and now a lawyer here with clients in both parties, agreed with that analysis. He said he came to the conclusion long ago that hardly anyone ever intentionally violates campaign finance laws. "If you really want to do something," Mr. Gross said, "you can almost always find a way to do it legally."

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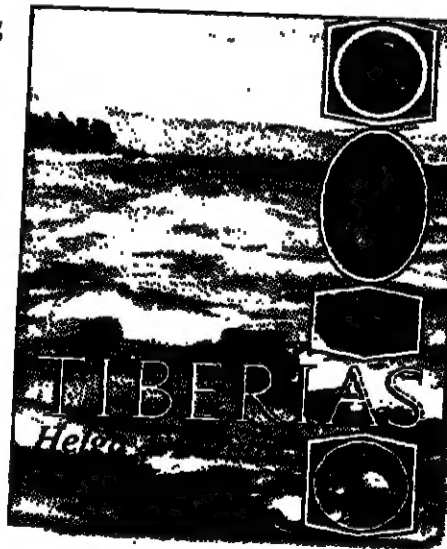
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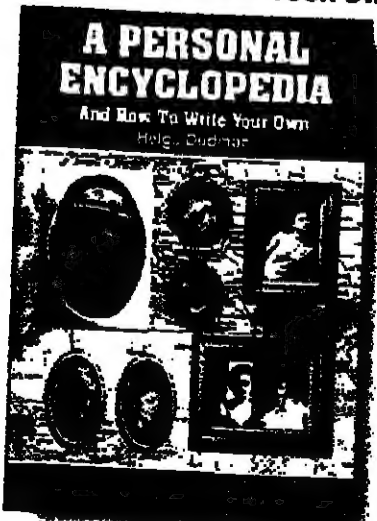
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Ideas & Trends

Trade War on the Home Front

By DAVID E. SANGER

TRADe talks, the Clinton White House has long insisted, are the arms control face-offs of the 90's. Sure, parking American cars in Osaka showrooms doesn't exactly concentrate the mind the way scrapping nukes aimed at Los Angeles once did. But whether the subject is throw-weights or tariff rates, the talks are really about national security and the uses of national power.

And much as it was during the cold war, Washington is caught up in an ideological debate over how its negotiators should use the huge pile of poker chips before them — terrifying nuclear might then and the world's strongest economy now.

But why, at a time of such strength, are Democrats threatening to take away the President's authority to negotiate deals abroad? And does the current domestic-centered debate have much to do with the ultimate goal: striking the toughest trade deals possible with other nations?

Ideology vs. Pragmatism

As with previous free-trade debates, the struggle again involves the question of whether ideology or pragmatism should govern American trade policy — with all concerned, of course, declaring that they are the true pragmatists. Oddly enough, this debate was supposed to be over several years ago. After a brief flirtation with trying to use trade deals to accomplish other goals — getting better treatment of dissidents in China or workers in sweatshops just south of the Mexican border — President Clinton discovered that the mix could quickly turn volatile.

The effort to link trade and social change quickly became immersed in politics here, and raised so many cries abroad that Americans were once again using their power to remake the world in Washington's image, that they undermined the main objective: to open markets to American goods. So with the notable exceptions of Cuba and Myanmar, formerly Burma, Mr. Clinton has usually kept trade separate from other foreign-policy goals. Now the Administration argues that the 200 trade deals it has cut in the past four years have fueled the huge surge in American exports — and, slowly but surely, strengthened its influence around the world on non-trade issues.

Perhaps so, but many argue that tallying up all those exports has become an end unto itself — to the detriment of other national interests. "President Clinton may well be spending more time promoting American sales abroad than doing anything else in foreign affairs," Samuel P. Huntington, the Harvard political scientist, wrote in a critical article in the latest issue of *Foreign Affairs*. "If so, that would be a dramatic sign of the redirection of American foreign policy."

Now Mr. Clinton finds himself caught in the same debate that dogged him when he

was first pushing the North American Free Trade Agreement through Congress in 1993, a bruising battle that alienated the left wing of the Democratic party and infuriated the nation's unions.

He needs the renewal of what trade wonks call "fast track" authority, which gives him the right to negotiate deals abroad that Congress can approve or defeat — but not amend, which would continually reopen negotiations. Other countries in the world will not talk to Washington unless Mr. Clinton has that authority.

Mr. Clinton is forcing the issue now because he knows that if he doesn't win the authority before serious mid-term election politicking sets in, he can forget about it. And in the next few years, the United States is

Like arms talks, trade talks are about security, and push hot political buttons.

going to be thrown into a range of negotiations at the new World Trade Organization, on everything from the rules for opening foreign markets to foreign-provided services, to changing the ways governments tilt the bidding on its contracts (a trillion-dollar market in Asia alone in the next decade), to protecting intellectual property. "These negotiations are going ahead anyway, with us or without us," said Mr. Clinton's tough-talking Trade Representative, Charlene Barshefsky. "Either we're going to be in the game, setting the rules, or they get set for us. And guess who the loser will be in that case."

The argument focuses on what kind of rules to set. Unions, bolstered by the perceived victory for labor in the recent United Parcel Service strike, say that the only way to truly protect American workers is to make sure laborers in other countries can unionize, and that nations cannot attract investment with lax environmental standards. And if trade agreements can help out industry by bringing in outside issues like protecting copyrights and patents, why not also use them to protect workers?

Nafta's Aftertaste

"To replicate failed trade policies of the past that protect intellectual property rights but do nothing to protect ordinary citizens, to write more rules into agreements to advance corporate interests at the expense of everyone else, is simply unacceptable," John J. Sweeney, the president of the AFL-CIO, told Congress last week.

Mr. Sweeney and Representative Richard Gephardt, the House minority leader, argue that Nafta never delivered benefits to Ameri-

can workers and that the "side agreements" on labor rights and the environment, thrown to them as a bone, proved useless.

It is an appealing argument, because clearly trade has a lot to do with the slow growth of wages in the United States. But as a practical matter, it may not be realistic. "Better education and training programs are likely to do more for helping American workers deal with a global marketplace than anything in a trade accord that describes labor standards," said I. M. Deftler, a professor at the University of Maryland who is a leading historian of trade accords.

Free Trade, My Way

Naturally everyone involved in this debate swears up and down that they are free traders, and that they have no intention of using these arguments to try to wall off the American economy from global competition. And, naturally, everyone insists that their path is the only way to truly reciprocal trade. Nonetheless, the president of the United Auto Workers told reporters last week that he would oppose any authority to allow Mr. Clinton to negotiate free trade agreements, no matter what the protections. "We can't even enforce labor rights here in this country," said the leader of the 800,000-member union, Stephen P. Yokich.

This is pure agony for Al Gore, the famed defender of Nafta in a televised debate with Ross Perot. Already battered in the campaign finance investigations, the Vice President is desperate not to alienate union supporters. While Mr. Clinton can afford to look presidential, talking about how opening markets is central to American leadership around the world, Mr. Gore and his staff have been looking desperately for political cover, and finding none.

But in typical Washington fashion, the political argument here is entirely focused on what will sell in Congress — and not on what will sell with America's trading partners. From Latin America (where President Clinton travels next month) to Asia and Europe, there is growing resentment that America is using its economic power to dictate all kinds of policies within other nations' borders.

Any attempt to force changes in labor and environmental standards in return for access to the American market — the bottom-line American threat — would raise charges of violations of sovereignty. Of course, it is Congress that complains of just the same thing when the World Trade Organization rules that American gasoline standards or other rules violate international accords.

"The hardest part of this debate is not within the U.S., it's when you actually negotiate an agreement with Asia or Latin America," said Robert Pastor, a professor at Emory University who has worked with Democrats and Republicans to come up with compromise wording that would allow the trade talks to begin. "The fact is that the rest of the world has been waiting a long time for the U.S. to get moving."



An anti-Nafta protester dumps produce in Florida in 1995. Free-trade anger lingers.



President Clinton talked Monday about national testing to elementary school students in Gambrills, Md.

Yelling at the Little Red Menace

Continued From Page 1

cates for minorities and the poor — find themselves pitted against each other in shifting alliances.

With peace and prosperity and no looming foreign enemy, education is an inviting area for politicians looking for a legacy and a lightning rod for stray political energies crackling across the landscape. When that 1946 Gallup Poll was taken, for example, a national test, if anyone thought to give one, would have been

Still unresolved is another debate over the gap in spending on the wealthiest and the poorest schools.

given only in English. Many people now say that to do so would penalize students who read well but whose first language is not English. Many others say national tests in any language other than English would be an outrage.

"We don't have the enemy outside, but we do have all this anxiety, all this anger within about who we are, what's our history, what are our values," said Mike Rose, an education professor at the University of California at Los Angeles. "So, bingo, where do they play out but in the schoolroom?" Educational issues have been transformed from diffuse, fractured, largely manageable ones that play out in local districts and individual schools to large, political, often symbolic ones.

Mr. Arons, who sees himself as a libertarian, says the key to bringing down the level of discord is divorcing schooling as much as possible not just from the national government but from local politics as well.

But the schisms may be so broad that that won't help much. Conservatives like Lynne Cheney, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a critic of curriculum changes toward what some call "whole math" or "fuzzy math," say it's the content more than the theory of schooling that's at issue. "I don't think schools 30 years ago were doing anything so faddish and dismaying as what they're doing now," she said.

Still, as contentious as the debates are, many liberal critics say the most important issue in education — the huge gap in resources available to the wealthiest schools and the poorest ones — is not being discussed at all. That suggests that as contentious as the school wars are, there is plenty of room left for them to get worse.

Testing Genes to Save a Life Without Costing You a Job

By NICHOLAS WADE

HUMAN genes hold a wealth of information that physicians hope will help them avert illnesses that may be passed on from one generation to the next. Yet the information, still a trickle but about to arrive in deluges, is so powerful that it will need to be handled with care.

A foretaste of its power was offered by the recent report of a genetic change, or mutation, that has been found to double an individual's lifetime risk of colon cancer; the mutation occurs in 6 percent of Ashkenazi Jews. Those who test positive for the gene can periodically have colonoscopies, in which a physician examines the colon and removes the slow-growing polyps from which colon cancer originates. The procedure is thought likely to reduce the risk of colon cancer from significant to near zero.

The finding promises to avert thousands of cases of the disease. Although the Johns Hopkins Oncology Center, where the mutation was discovered, is recommending now that only people with a family history of colon cancer be tested, the advice is likely to be extended to everyone of Ashkenazi heritage — that is, Jews of Eastern European descent, who account for the great majority of American Jews — if the preliminary estimates of the mutation's risk are confirmed. The Lerner Foundation of Cleveland has offered to pay for the test for anyone who cannot afford it. (The test can be given at Hopkins; it is not yet available in New York.)

But the knowledge comes with certain hazards. To be tested for genetic disposition to any disease exposes one to being denied a job or medical insurance. Laws to forbid such discrimination are not yet fully in place.

The new finding also risked singling out a particular group and creating the impression that people of Ashkenazi heritage are at higher risk of genetic disease — an impression that is almost certainly false. So far, the colon cancer mutation has not been found in non-Ashkenazis. A dozen other genetic diseases, including Tay-Sachs disease and cystic fibrosis, are commoner among Ashkenazis than other population groups.

"The Jewish community has been understandably concerned about the possibility of discrimination against Ashkenazi Jews on the basis of such findings," said Lois Waldman, an officer of the American Jewish Congress.

Under the human genome project at the National Institutes of Health, all three billion genetic letters in human DNA are expected to be deciphered by 2005. Will the project generate information about particular population groups that will prove to be divisive?

"This is a serious issue, that the research doesn't inadvertently stigmatize a particular group just because the group has features that make it advantageous

to study," said Dr. Francis Collins, head of the human genome project. He hastened to dispel the idea that Ashkenazi Jews are likely to have any greater burden of genetic disease than other groups.

Among population groups that are descended from a small number of founders, and have intermarried for many generations, the founders' disease-causing mutations are still often relatively common. This is true of small or once-small populations such as Ashkenazis, Finns and Icelanders, who for that reason are much studied by medical geneticists. Larger populations have more different kinds of founder mutation, though each is less common, doubtless making for the same overall burden of genetic disease, Dr. Collins said.

So Far, the Same

The mere act of defining human populations as genetically different holds potential for mischief, even if no significant differences should emerge. So far, however, it seems that at least in geneticists' eyes all human populations will prove to be boringly alike.

The trivial differences that have developed typically take the form of genetic variants that may be somewhat more common in certain groups but are far from universal. Some 6 percent of Ashkenazi Jews may carry the colon cancer mutation, for example, but 94 percent have the same version of the gene as do non-Ashkenazis.

"I think that as more and more genetic information on the human species is emerging, there is ever more basis for saying that the level of genetic differentiation among human populations is relatively trivial," said Dr. Douglas Futuyma of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Nonetheless, genetic ideas have led to some horrifying consequences. Reports emerged last month that up until the 1970's some 60,000 people had been sterilized in Sweden, and 11,000 in Finland, under government policies designed to weed out properties like poor eyesight and Gypsy features.

Dr. James Watson, a leading biologist and proponent of the human genome project, argues that past crimes committed in the name of eugenics should not prevent individuals from being allowed to choose the benefits that genetic engineering can offer in the future.

"Anyone who proclaims we are now perfect as humans has to be a silly crank," he writes in the annual report of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island, of which he is president. "If we could honestly promise young couples that we knew how to give them offspring with superior character, why should we assume they would decline?"

Public opinion is probably not yet prepared for the forward kind of genetic engineering that Dr. Watson is suggesting. But the rapid progress of genetic understanding is bringing these choices ever closer.

The World

In Death, Too, Demand for Diana Exceeds the Supply



A woman places more flowers at Kensington Palace in London as a monk (right) kneels to pray on the eve of Princess Diana's funeral.

By SARAH LYALL

LONDON
In an emotional news conference at a celebrity tennis tournament in Florida last week, the pop star Elton John urged people still mourning the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, to begin putting aside their grief and get on with their lives.

Even still, they might like to buy the new version of Mr. John's song "Candle in the Wind," which he performed to great effect at Diana's funeral and which is expected to be the biggest-selling single of all time. (Proceeds, Mr. John pledged, are to go to the Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, which is becoming the fastest-growing memorial fund of all time.)

Nobody doubts that Mr. John, a friend of the princess, is deeply upset by her violent and untimely death on Aug. 31. Even so, he has found himself, however altruistically, squarely placed on what has quickly turned into a speeding Diana bandwagon.

Are people profiting from the princess's death? The flower industry, to name one group, seemed to do extraordinarily well in the last two weeks, when mourners blanketed the entrances of the capital's royal palaces with as many as 80 million flowers, one for every resident of Britain.

"If you think about it, one of the cornerstones of the floristry profession is doing funeral work and dealing with people who are bereaved," said Andrea Caldecourt, a

spokeswoman for the Flowers and Plants Association, a British industry group. "People want to express their regret that she had died, and flowers are an obvious way of doing that."

While some segments of the floral industry clearly benefited — Holland, where 37 percent of Britain's imported flowers come from, saw a 20 to 25 percent rise in volume — others actually suffered. "Due to the funeral, a huge number of large engagements, like weddings and balls and functions, were canceled, and the flowers were canceled, too," said Anthony McAllister, chairman of the Flower Import Trade Association here.

Some news outlets around the world have enjoyed unexpected benefits from the princess's death. For MSNBC, the 14-month-old cable channel, the tragedy might prove to be as big a bonanza as the Gulf war was to CNN. While the channel generally draws an audience well below 100,000, at times in the last two weeks its audience reached a million people, said Julia Moffett, a spokeswoman for NBC News in New York.

Ready to Serve

"We don't want to make it appear that success was riding on the back of tragedy, but this was an event in which people were hungry for news and information over a sustained period of time," she said. "MSNBC got to prove itself. Our long-term goal is to be a viable competitor of CNN, and this proved that we are certainly poised to do that."

The fastest-growing memorial fund of all time is fueled by some fast-growing profits.

Although they were regularly cast as the villains in the tragedy, Britain's London-based national newspapers reaped huge circulation benefits from Diana's death, with readers sometimes lining up in the street outside newspaper stores to buy copies. Although final figures aren't available, all the papers had hugely increased sales, particularly on the Sunday that Diana died and on the following Sunday, the day after her funeral, when many newspapers released what they called "commemorative" editions. Often, sales rose by several hundred thousand copies.

For some time, it seems, the world will not be able to get away from Diana — whether it wants to or not. In the last two weeks, her photograph has appeared on the covers of magazines from Time and the Economist to Vanity Fair and Hello!, the glossy celebrity publication whose title reflects its institutional enthusiasm. (The week after her death, Hello! sold about a million copies, or double its usual volume this time of year.) A number of publications have pulled together spe-

cial all-Diana issues (portions of the proceeds, inevitably, will go to Diana's charity).

Next come the books. Not one, not two, not three, but books into the double digits are being re-released, hastily assembled or brought out sooner than expected in the wake of Diana's death. St. Martin's Press is reprinting 200,000 copies of "Diana: Her Life in Photographs," a 1995 picture book that has been updated and renamed "Diana: A Tribute in Photographs," and which will arrive in stores in November. At Simon & Schuster, Diana books being re-issued at well past the million-copy mark in total include paperbacks about Diana, Prince William, Diana and astrology, and the British royal family.

Not a Penny

In hard cover, the publisher is re-issuing "Diana: Her True Story" in early October with a fat new color photo section and a new introduction by the author, Andrew Morton. According to a spokesman, Simon & Schuster has already received 525,000 advance orders for the book.

John Murphy, a spokesman for St. Martin's Press, said St. Martin's wasn't trying to profit from the princess's death. "The advance orders we got were enormous," he said, "and a portion of the proceeds are going to Diana's foundation."

Bantam Doubleday Dell is bringing out "Diana: A Tribute," a two-hour audio book that is currently being assembled by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Stuart Applebaum, a spokesman, said the company

wanted to release something "fresh and authoritative."

"There's been a frenzied consumer response, and of course we wouldn't have this commercial opportunity if it wasn't for the tragedy," Mr. Applebaum added. "So we're going to give a portion of the profits from the sale of the audio to the Princess of Wales memorial fund."

What else? The restaurants along Kensington High Street, just below the princess's apartment in Kensington Palace, are continuing to enjoy increased traffic from visitors making pilgrimages to what is fast becoming a shrine to Diana. In Paris, newspapers have reported that some tourist groups are being led to the spot in the tunnel where she met her death.

And, in what has at times felt like mass hysteria, no suggestion has been too far-reaching. Some have proposed renaming Heathrow Airport after the princess. Others would like to see the Mall, the wide road that connects Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace, closed forever to traffic and an enormous statue of Diana erected atop Trafalgar Square's empty marble column.

Even the ultra-respectable BBC has gotten in on the action. In addition to its audio tape, it is releasing a Diana video that will be "an uplifting rather than a sad tribute to the Princess of Wales," said Vicky Thomas, a spokeswoman for BBC Consumer Publishing. "All the money we make out of this is going to the Princess of Wales's memorial fund," she said. "We're not making a penny out of this."

Becoming A Saint

Continued From Page 1

hood. Miracles are usually healing miracles that science can't explain, worked by God through the intercession of the candidate-saint.

Another major change introduced in 1983 was the elimination of the office of the Promoter of the Faith — known as the "Devil's Advocate" — whose role had been to spot flaws in the arguments on behalf of sainthood.

Given her many years spent in selfless devotion to the poor, her tireless efforts to expand her mission and the wide recognition of her good deeds, including the award of Nobel Prize in 1979, the case for Mother Teresa's sainthood would be off to a good start. The pope himself was a fervent admirer of the Albanian-born nun, whom he met several times, and in recent days he has

'What's important is that her life has already inspired people.'

repeatedly praised her as a historical figure. "Mother Teresa marked the history of our century," the pope told a gathering of Catholic charity workers, earlier last week. "She courageously defended life, she served all human beings by promoting their dignity and respect, and made those who had been defeated by life feel the tenderness of God."

Her promotion to sainthood, which will be



Mother Teresa in Meerut, 1981.

presented in volumes of evidence in the "position" — as a candidate's official dossier is called — is sure to dwell on her piety in general, and also on specific acts of charity and self sacrifice. It is too early to talk about miracles, although the Italian press last week was already reporting on a case of a man from Trieste, Italy, who suddenly recovered from a fatal illness after meeting Mother Teresa. This, and other cases of miraculous healing that are sure to be reported, will be examined exhaustively by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

The selection and promotion of saints is a process usually accompanied by heavy political overtones. Pope John Paul II has made a point of promoting new saints from Africa, Asia and also from Eastern Europe, as a way of broadening the church's base. In 1988, he canonized 127 Vietnamese martyrs at a single ceremony; last May, he presided at the beatification of a Spanish Gypsy who was killed by a firing squad during the Spanish Civil War, the first time a Gypsy had been so recognized by the Catholic church.

At the canonization ceremonies, he frequently uses the saint's personal history and particular virtues to draw a larger moral and historical point, holding up the figure as an example of tolerance among nations and religions, or in countries that have suffered religious persecution, praising their unwavering loyalty to their faith.

In this respect, Mother Teresa represents another theme of Pope John Paul II's papacy, namely her importance as a figure of humility and compassion who represented the Catholic church on a continent that is overwhelmingly Hindu and Moslem. "Her life has already given inspiration to millions of people," said Henry De Souza, the archbishop of Calcutta. "That is the truly important thing."

Making Do Without A Devil's Advocate

OF all the departments within the Vatican bureaucracy, few have had as intriguing a name as the "Devil's Advocate," the legal office whose duty it was to play the adversary whenever Rome considered a candidate for canonization.

But the road to sainthood for candidates like Mother Teresa has been streamlined with the elimination of the devil's advocate in a sweeping reform of Roman Catholic Church law in the 1980's. Before that, the advocate (officially known as the Promoter of the Faith) was entrusted with raising pointed questions about the holiness of those being considered for veneration by the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

"The devil's advocate was a prosecutor," said Msgr. Francis Maniscalco, spokesman for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, whose role was "to make sure somebody unworthy" didn't become saint without a thorough examination.

Early church leaders accorded sainthood to martyrs and others deemed to have led particularly holy lives. Only gradually was that process centralized in Rome. In the 14th century, the church adopted a trial-like system in which the devil's advocate tried to poke holes in cases brought by church lawyers representing candidates for sainthood. That

lasted until Pope John Paul II revamped the system in 1983.

In the preface to the paperback edition of his book "Making Saints" (Touchstone, 1996), Kenneth Woodward expressed concern that there is no one now in the Vatican "charged with the responsibility to challenge the evidence" brought forward on behalf of a candidate for sainthood, thus leaving the process open to possible manipulation by some powerful group within the church.

But Msgr. Frederick McManus, professor emeritus of canon law at Catholic University of America in Washington, said the changes had created "a simpler and clearer" system of evaluation.

The process of canonization remains exacting and complicated, involving a thorough investigation of a person's life and writings, along with theological and scientific evidence attesting that miracles have occurred to people who have prayed to the candidate.

But without the devil's advocate, Monsignor Maniscalco said, the process "is more like a grand jury," where the facts are presented and deliberated upon without the atmosphere of a trial court. "It's not adversarial anymore, let's put it that way," he said.

GUSTAV NIEBUHR

ECONOMY

Chief Banker to Nations at the Bottom of the Heap

By RICHARD W. STEVENSON

WASHINGTON

A FEW months ago, James D. Wolfensohn, the wealthy former investment banker who heads the World Bank, stood in a teeming hillside ghetto in Rio de Janeiro, watching people who had never had running water experience the simple pleasure of opening a tap.

The World Bank had teamed up with poverty-fighting organizations, the city government, the water company and local residents to install simple sewage and water lines. The project, Mr. Wolfensohn was told, had created a profitable new market for the water company, improved health and freed thousands of women in the community from the crippling daily ritual of dragging buckets of water up from the bottom of the hill.

On a global scale, it was a tiny victory for the World Bank, which has had only intermittent success in decades of struggle to bring hope and improved living standards to the world's poorest nations. But for Mr. Wolfensohn, who has led the much-criticized international agency for two years, it was a moment that brought to life how the bank can and should work.

Unlike many huge development projects that have given the agency a black eye, this one was of a manage-

able scale, and it made economic sense. It combined private investment with World Bank expertise. It could be replicated elsewhere. And it had the support and involvement not just of governments and other official bodies but also of the people it was trying to help.

"I would watch the women turn on the water, and sometimes they would cry, but always it would be with happiness," Mr. Wolfensohn recounted in one of two long interviews this summer. "I cried, because how can you not? You see hope in the eyes of people."

But if his trip to Brazil was heartening, it was no more than a brief interlude in his battle to arrest the bank's loss of influence, improve its record in fighting global poverty and assure its survival as the flagship of international development agencies.

There is more at stake than the World Bank's reputation. The entire development field, in which the bank is the biggest and most influential player, is under scrutiny as never before, in both rich nations and poor. Critics say the many hundreds of billions of dollars in development aid have failed abysmally in efforts to build foundations for sustainable economic growth in many regions. Even supporters acknowledge that results have been disappointing in too many countries.

"Development, particularly in Africa, is the pre-eminent moral chal-

lenge facing mankind, and the World Bank's role has never been more important," said Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence H. Summers, a former chief economist at the bank.

It is too early for Mr. Wolfensohn's efforts to have had any significant effect on the bank's record; by its own accounting, a third of the projects it backs fail to create enduring benefits. But through charm, exhortation and occasional bullying, he has focused the institution on the big question of what role it should play at a time when official development efforts have been discredited by their own spotty record and are being made increasingly irrelevant by huge pools of private capital flowing into developing nations.

WHAT Western democracies once considered third-world countries, battle grounds against Communism as much as against poverty, are now defined as emerging markets. And the World Bank, long viewed by critics on the left as embodying the worst of colonialist tendencies, is being hammered by critics on the right as a crutch for corrupt and weak-willed governments and as a barrier to the spread of free markets and democratic capitalism.

Balancing such countervailing pressures even as he seeks to remake the institution requires something of a high-wire act from Mr. Wolfensohn, and opinions inside and outside the bank vary about whether he can pull it off.

"It's an irrelevant institution trying to find a role in today's world," said Ian Vazquez, an economist at the Cato Institute who says the World Bank's policies too often impede the development of market economies. "No amount of internal reform will change that."

But even some of the harshest critics give Mr. Wolfensohn credit for a passionate commitment to the cause of fighting poverty and for forcing some wrenching and needed changes on the bank.

"He genuinely wants to make a difference and to make his mark by turning the bank around and making it an institution that effectively tackles poverty," said Justin Forsyth, the director of Oxfam International, one of the biggest nongovernmental organizations working on development programs around the world.

"He's a breath of fresh air," Mr. Forsyth said. "The big question mark is whether he can deliver in practice, whether the reality will match the rhetoric."

After just 26 months on the job, Mr. Wolfensohn, 63, has become the most activist and publicly visible president the institution has had since Robert S. McNamara stepped down in 1981. A stocky native of Australia with an unruly shock of white hair, Mr. Wolfensohn comes from a background that defies easy categorization.

He made a fortune on Wall Street and enjoys trappings of great wealth like a private jet and a lavish vacation home in Jackson Hole, Wyo. Yet he talks of a deep sense of compassion for the poor that is rooted in his family's financial woes during childhood. He spent a career advising the world's most unapologetic capitalists, but built a long record of involvement in social, environmental and philanthropic causes. Erodite and tireless, he can also be impatient and thin-skinned when things don't go his way, colleagues say.

Without question, he has managed to give the bank's culture a jolt. He has encouraged top officials to move from Washington to the countries they are responsible for helping. He is requiring hundreds of senior managers to go through several weeks of business-school-style courses on how companies that fail to adapt to change tend to land on the ash heap of history. The courses are followed by a week's stay in a poor village or slum to reinforce what the bank's efforts are all about.

As many as 700 people, or 7 percent of the bank's work force, could lose their jobs in a continuing reorganization intended to make the agency more nimble and efficient. And Mr. Wolfensohn has made clear that advancement at the bank will no longer be based on success in getting loans



James D. Wolfensohn pressing the flesh on a visit to Uganda in 1995, shortly after he became president of the World Bank.

approved by the board, but by the long-term success of loan programs in improving living standards.

Mr. Wolfensohn has also begun laying out a vision for the bank that calls for it to shed its somewhat arrogant self-image as the center of the development world. He wants the bank to see itself as a facilitator and partner — with governments, with other development agencies, with grass-roots groups and other nongovernmental organizations and, perhaps most important, with the companies, investors and other sources

say, a hydroelectric dam or other concrete artifact of modernization. In some cases, those projects brought measurable improvements in standards of living, but often they wreaked environmental havoc and proved to be economic boondoggles.

These days, the bank has a big program under way to forgive some debts that poor countries ran up with the encouragement or approval of international aid agencies, including the bank itself. And a typical bank project might be the \$12.8 million loan it made last year to Kenya to clean up Lake Victoria and help the fishing and farming communities on its shores. Or the \$16.8 million loan to the former Soviet republic of Moldova to train teachers and buy textbooks. Or the \$10.7 million loan to help Ecuador change its judicial system. Or the \$4.7 million irrigation program for small farmers in Mali.

"The issue in the old days was getting projects done," Mr. Wolfensohn said. "Getting individual projects done today, unless you scale them up, is not going to solve the problems of poverty and inequality and social justice."

"You can help people make crops grow. But if you don't have roads to get them out, microcredits to finance them, facilities to store them and advice on marketing, then improving crop yields is not going to affect the national scene."

WORLD BANK presidents since Mr. McNamara, the former Secretary of Defense who took over in 1968, have tried to respond to criticism about the institution's approach.

But none came into office with the sense of urgency that greeted Mr. Wolfensohn two years ago. A new Republican majority in Congress was attacking foreign aid in general. And to mark the anniversary of the founding of the bank and the International Monetary Fund in 1944, activist groups from around the world had mounted a long campaign proclaiming that "50 years is enough" for the two institutions, or at least for the policies they represented.

The bank's shift in emphasis from lending for big infrastructure projects toward social and environmental programs had begun some years earlier. But Mr. Wolfensohn has sought to accelerate and expand the bank's metamorphosis. One of his main efforts has been to reach out to the hundreds of environmental, human rights and poverty-fighting organizations that have long worked alongside the bank and been among its fiercest critics.

Mr. Wolfensohn has urged his managers to include the organizations in any projects where they may be helpful. The World Wildlife Fund, for example, is helping the bank develop an approach to forest management. And a coalition of more than 500 organizations has agreed to join an 18-month program to assess the effectiveness of the bank's policies in seven nations.

Mr. Wolfensohn has also tried to respond to criticism from poor nations that the bank too often imposes solutions from above, rather than listening to people most affected by its policies. Confronted with complaints last year from African offi-

cials about the bank's approach, Mr. Wolfensohn told them to come up with their own ideas. They brought him a plan that is now serving as the blueprint for many of the bank's activities.

"They said that all we did was bring in foreign advisers, pay them enormous amounts of money, drive around in Land Rovers, give technical assistance and then leave," Mr. Wolfensohn said.

With the Africans' own report now guiding policy, "it's very clear whose program this is now," he continued. "They will never be able to say we came up with the wrong program — and there's every chance they came up with the right program."

Many outsiders, though, believe that Mr. Wolfensohn is only modifying the bank's policies around the edges. Doug Hellingger, who heads the Development Group for Alternative Policies, a consortium of nongovernmental organizations, said Mr. Wolfensohn, perhaps constrained by the rich nations that dominate the bank's board, remained too wedded to the idea that globalization will bring prosperity to poor workers and farmers around the world. Current bank policies, he said, will exploit the most vulnerable around the world, leading to a downward spiral in living standards and working conditions.

"He has a personality that can help force change, but the strategy he's pursuing is not going to work," Mr. Hellingger said. "It's going to be an opportunity wasted. It's a shame."

IN many ways, Mr. Wolfensohn has been training for this job his entire life. Born in Sydney to parents who had emigrated from Britain, he grew up without much money but in an atmosphere that encouraged a love for music and the arts and that instilled in him a drive for accomplishment and security.

Encouraged by some friends while in college to take up fencing, he pushed hard enough to make the Australian Olympic team within a few years. After receiving a law degree and being chided by an American colleague for his lack of business expertise, he went off to Harvard Business School and received an M.B.A. in 1959.

After rising through a number of Australian and British investment banks, he landed at Salomon Brothers in New York in 1977. Within a few years he had come to national prominence by helping to engineer the bailout of the Chrysler Corporation. He had also indulged his passion for classical music, taking up the cello and becoming chairman of Carnegie Hall. In addition, he became a trustee of the Population Council and the Rockefeller Foundation and traveled to one of the first worldwide environmental conferences.

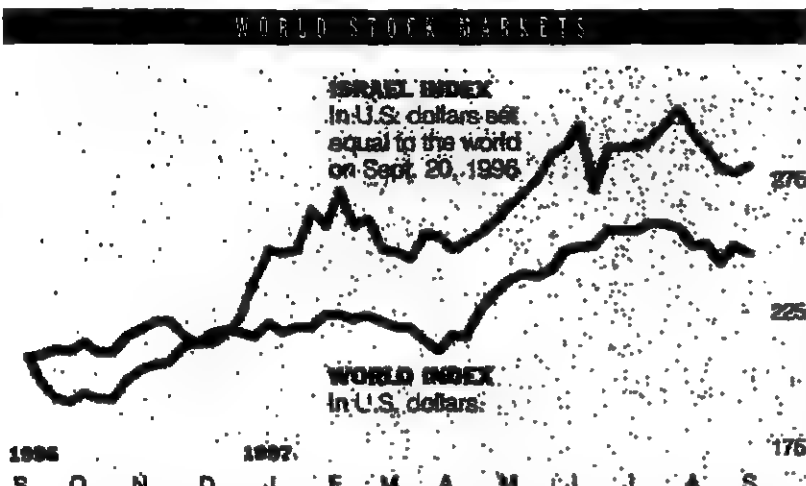
In 1980, hearing that Mr. McNamara had included him on a list of possible successors for the World Bank presidency — a job that traditionally goes to an American on the recommendation of the President — Mr. Wolfensohn quickly became an American citizen.

He did not get the job that time around. Instead, he left Salomon to found his own firm so that he would have more freedom to pursue outside interests. The firm, James D. Wolfensohn Inc., which put 20 percent of its profits into charitable causes, became one of the hottest mergers-and-acquisitions advisers of the 1980's and early 90's. (It is now part of Bankers Trust.)

When President Clinton offered him the World Bank job, he never hesitated, and for all the frustrations and intense criticism he has faced, he says the job is all he hoped for.

"I have had terrible times and I still have them, and I wonder out of here some days wondering why I'm not in Jackson Hole, fishing," Mr. Wolfensohn said. "But it doesn't last very long. I have a passionate belief in this organization. We can make a difference between peace and war. We can make a difference between poverty and a fair life for people."

"I'm not saying we can solve all the problems, but we can make a difference," he said. "You may think that's stupid, but it's why I'm here."



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indexes, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indexes are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Country	IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD	Index	Week % Chg.	YTD	Rank
Australia	223.66	-0.5	13	0.8	20	3.73	206.18	11.0
Austria	185.82	-2.2	20	3.1	19	1.82	180.11	18.5
Belgium	239.42	-2.8	21	5.1	17	3.17	215.74	21.0
Brazil	267.56	-4.2	27	41.1	1	1.37	537.80	48.2
Britain	306.88	-1.3	18	8.4	15	3.51	282.86	15.3
Canada	215.12	-0.7	14	13.3	12	1.73	217.04	15.2
Denmark	384.72	1.4	3	9.3	14	1.55	352.55	24.9
Finland	298.98	0.1	11	21.7	6	1.65	332.49	39.9
France	225.50	-0.9	17	5.3	18	2.50	210.55	20.6
Germany	215.94	-3.7	25	13.7	11	1.44	198.70	30.5
Hong Kong	509.83	0.6	9	0.5	21	3.06	507.01	0.7
Indonesia	155.00	-8.3	28	-32.1	25	2.33	278.90	-15.7
Ireland	368.35	-0.8	15	12.0	13	2.86	343.38	25.4
Italy	102.05	-0.8	16	22.2	5	1.80	131.84	39.1
Japan	119.83	-3.0	22	-7.3	23	0.87	91.36	-3.5
Malaysia	348.41	5.3	1	-42.2	26	1.82	395.85	-32.5
Mexico	1,718.65	-1.6	19	40.9	2	1.53	14,825.81	39.3
Netherlands	394.24	-3.6	24	17.3	7	2.25	358.70	35.2
New Zealand	87.92	0.4	10	-4.2	22	4.14	73.54	6.6
Norway	336.35	0.7	8	13.8	10	1.85	332.56	29.8
Philippines	107.87	1.3	4	-47.0	27	1.22	173.10	-35.1
Singapore	317.40	2.3	2	-24.4	24	1.43	221.45	-18.2
South Africa	329.82	-3.9	26	3.6	18	2.52	337.84	3.8
Spain	253.02	0.7	7	15.1	9	2.29	286.08	32.1
Sweden	493.75	1.1	6	17.0	8	1.84	559.79	31.3
Switzerland	292.79	-3.3	23	22.7	4	1.25	265.89	33.9
Thailand	40.21	1.2	5	-56.0	28	5.21	56.54	-40.7
United States	376.31	-0.5	12	24.7	3	1.64	376.31	24.7

COMPOSITE INDICES			
Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD
Europe	268.94	-1.8	12.2
Pacific Basin	136.00	-2.1	-8.5
Europe/Pacific	191.49	-1.9	2.7
World	253.52	-1.2	13.1

Sources: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

CURRENCIES			
Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	120.86	121.08	-0.08
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.7720	1.8024	-1.69
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3925	1.3933	+0.07
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6059	1.5939	+0.75

Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Sept. 8-12: In Stocks, Small Is Still Beautiful, and Bond Prices Also Rise

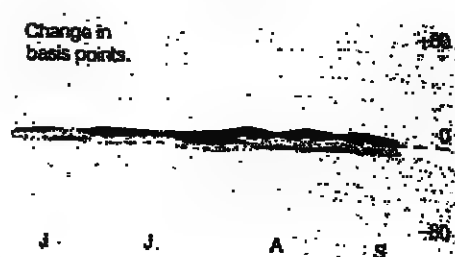
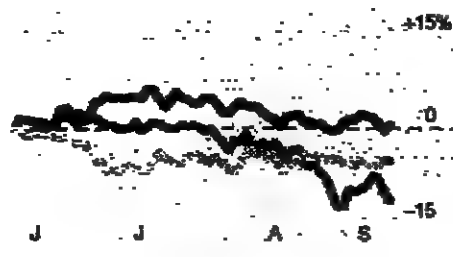
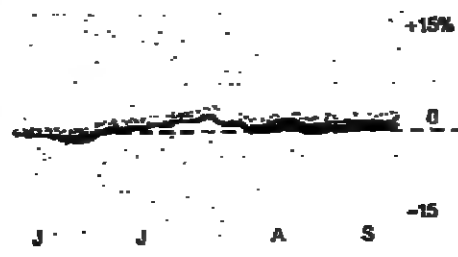
PRICES		
DOMESTIC EQUITIES		
Broad market	Down 0.55%	923.91
S & P 500 index		
Blue chips	Down 1.02%	7,742.97
Dow 30 industrials		
Small capitalization	Up 1.63%	440.09
Russell 2000 index		

DOMESTIC BONDS		
Treasuries	Up 0.46%	203.70
Ryan Labs. Total Return		
Municipals	Up 0.28%	120.31
Bond Buyer index		
Corporates	Up 0.46%	897.68
Merrill Lynch Master index		

AROUND THE WORLD		
European stocks	Down 1.75%	268.94
F.T.-Actuaries Europe		
Asian stocks	Down 2.13%	136.00
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin		
Gold	Up 0.31%	\$324.80
New York cash price		

YIELDS		
BONDS		
Long bonds	Down 6 basis pts.	6.59%
30-year Treasuries		
Notes	Down 3 basis pts.	5.91%
2-year Treasuries		
Municipals	Down 2 basis pts.	5.51%
Bond Buyer index		

OTHER INVESTMENTS		
Money market funds	Down 4 basis pts.	5.01%
Taxable average		
Bank C.D.'s	Unchanged	5.17%
1-year small savers		
Stocks	Up 1 b.p.	1.67%
S & P 500 dividend yield		



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

The New York Times

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The Prosecutor Game

The torrent of disclosures of political fundraising abuses by the Democrats last year has no doubt had a numbing effect on many Americans. But if ordinary citizens find it hard to keep track of the shady characters, bank transfers and memos suggesting that Vice President Gore and others knew what they say they did not know, the Justice Department has no excuse. Recent weeks have brought fresh evidence that the department's investigators are either lethargic or over their heads. Even worse, Attorney General Janet Reno's failure to seek an independent counsel to oversee the probe no longer looks like a principled assertion of faith in Justice's career staff. It looks like a political blocking operation to protect President Clinton and Mr. Gore from the vigorous investigation that would be aimed at any other officeholder who had received so much suspicious money.

Earlier this month, Ms. Reno was warned by Republicans in the House that "the mood in Congress to remove you from office grows daily." That is a drastic step we are not quite ready to endorse. But the Congressional frustration is understandable in light of recent developments. It is hard to fathom, for example, why Justice Department investigators were so clearly taken by surprise when it turned out that the Democratic Party had engaged in a systematic scheme of juggling its books, transferring money from one account to another in possible violation of the law. Had the investigators been doing their job, they would have also discovered months ago that the basis for Ms. Reno's repeatedly saying that there were no credible allegations of wrongdoing against Mr. Gore was flat wrong.

After disclosures in the press that the Democrats mixed campaign accounts that are supposed to be rigidly separate, Ms. Reno abruptly announced that her department would actively consider asking for a special counsel to take over the case. But there really is no need for delay in recognizing the obvious. Moreover, it would be a political subterfuge to limit the special counsel to Mr. Gore. His boss has earned one, too.

The first order of business ought to be fixing responsibility for the Democrats' fund-raising abuses, not simply the shuffling of accounts but whether there were any quid pro quos for all those donors and whether anyone in a major responsibility knew of the laundering of money and illegal transfers of funds from foreign sources. Among the highest priorities, in addition, is determining whether

Mr. Gore violated Federal laws by soliciting money from big donors from his office at the White House.

There may be a temptation among Democrats and others to suggest that bookkeeping violations are inconsequential. But that would be a fundamental misreading of the issue. The reasons go back to the reforms that followed the biggest political scandal in modern American history.

Watergate led to two historic changes in American politics. First was the establishment of a process in which the Attorney General may seek the appointment of a special prosecutor, which later became known as an independent counsel, to investigate cases against top Administration officials. In 1993 when the statute was renewed, Ms. Reno herself affirmed the importance of being able to turn to an outside counsel to avoid "an inherent conflict of interest" when the Attorney General, an appointee of the President, must oversee an investigation that could damage the Administration politically. She is burdened by that conflict today.

Watergate also produced limits on campaign contributions that were flagrantly violated last year. Since 1974, it has been illegal for an individual to contribute more than \$1,000 to a Federal candidate per election or more than \$20,000 per year to a political party for candidate election expenses. Individuals may not give more than \$25,000 in such contributions a year for all candidates and parties put together. These strictly limited contributions that are used for direct candidate support are called "hard money." Federal election law separates hard gifts from the unlimited "soft money" that can be given to the parties for their operating and promotion efforts. Last week we learned that the Democratic National Committee routinely deposited soft money in its hard money or candidate accounts without informing the donors. Although some of the money was later shifted to other accounts, it is clear that the D.N.C. was casual about one of the law's most basic distinctions.

Ms. Reno's primary duty is to uphold the laws on the books. But her Democratic loyalty seems to flow toward those bearing endless legalistic explanations as to why the laws either do not mean what they say or can be ignored with impunity. She should step aside and let someone with a less partisan view of law enforcement take over the crucial task of investigating the White House money flow.

Architecture of an Irish Peace

After years of fitful preparation, negotiations for peace are set to begin in earnest tomorrow in Northern Ireland. The Irish Republican Army has declared a new cease-fire, the British and Irish Governments seem committed to ending the violent conflict and the largest unionist party, though hesitating, seems likely to participate in some form. If so, all sides would be present. Whether the citizens of Northern Ireland will get the permanent peace they dearly want and clearly deserve depends on whether Protestants and Catholic leaders alike are willing to settle for something less than their ultimate goals.

The great effort required to remove the obstacles to these talks has obscured the difficult task ahead, which is nothing less than negotiating an end to the civil strife that has killed 3,200 people in the last 30 years. The talks are scheduled to end in May, although this date may slip if agreement is close. A peace accord would require ratification by the British Parliament and approval of voters in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

The opening positions seem irreconcilable. Protestant leaders, who represent the majority of Northern Ireland's citizens, insist that the union with Britain be maintained and the I.R.A. permanently stop terrorism. Catholic leaders, including the Sinn Féin representatives now at the negotiating table, have long demanded that the ties with London be severed and Northern Ireland reunited with the rest of Ireland.

To break free of this straitjacket, the negotiators should begin by searching for small steps to build confidence and trust. The most urgent is for the nationalists to reassure unionists by relinquishing some of the I.R.A.'s huge stockpile of arms. Sinn Féin was admitted to the talks with the tacit understanding that this would happen as talks proceeded.

But last week, the I.R.A. announced that it would not give up any arms until a final settlement was reached. Eventually all sides must disarm.

If some early progress can be made, the outline of a possible settlement is visible in a series of documents issued by the British and Irish Governments since 1985. It would keep Northern Ireland part of Britain, while guaranteeing Catholics more equal treatment and closer ties with Ireland.

The changes would begin with the devolution of power from the British Parliament to a new local parliament in Northern Ireland, which is also happening in Scotland and Wales. Voting would be weighted to give Catholics the full representation they have been denied in the past. Catholics would also benefit from measures to correct historic discrimination. Jobs would be directed to Catholic areas to reduce Catholic unemployment, which is twice that of Protestants. The Royal Ulster Constabulary would also be reformed to use community policing and reach out to Catholics, many of whom see it as an occupation force. In addition, nationalists would win closer ties between Dublin and Belfast, perhaps in the form of joint boards to cooperate on issues like public health, agriculture, tourism, security and economic measures.

Few people expect that hard-liners on both sides, who have found both political comfort and financial profit in the conflict, will honor any agreement. But a settlement is likely to have widespread public support and communities may gradually marginalize the violent groups. In the end, both the behavior of the negotiating parties and adherence to any agreement depend on the desire for peace among Northern Ireland's citizens. That desire is strong. The leaders gathering in Belfast tomorrow would not be there were it not for the pressure for peace that is so palpable in Northern Ireland.

Football as Pulp Drama

Despite all the hoopla over tonight's nationally televised football game between the New York Jets and the New England Patriots, the Super Bowl is not yet at hand. But there are enough big egos and small subtexts here to make it a very interesting evening.

Start first with Bill Parcells and Pete Carroll, two men coaching each other's former teams. Parcells, the Jets' coach, returns to New England for the first time since he directed the Patriots to the Super Bowl last winter. Carroll, now running the Patriots, was fired by the Jets after the 1994 season. Then there are the owners, Bob Kraft of the Patriots and Leon Hess of the Jets, two strong-willed men who dueled each other last year for Parcells' services this season. Kraft, charging betrayal and worse, finally released Parcells from the last year

of his contract, but only after extracting four draft picks from Hess.

On paper, Carroll clearly has the edge tonight. He is coaching a team that Parcells brought to championship form whereas Parcells is coaching a team that was not very good under Carroll and got decidedly worse under Rick Kittle. But nobody can underestimate the Parcells factor. His former players on the Patriots either love him as the man who elevated their careers or, like quarterback Drew Bledsoe, detest him as an overbearing bully. Lost in their emotions about Parcells, the Patriots might easily forget that they are supposed to be playing football and give Parcells — a master of mind games — a win.

Who said football was all X's and O's? This has the makings of a pulp novel.

Fast Track on Treaties Leaves Labor in the Dust

To the Editor:

"Mr. Clinton Deserves 'Fast Track'" (editorial, Sept. 8) cavalierly dismisses American workers' concern with competition from foreign low-wage labor on the theoretical ground that the competitive effect of lower wages is canceled out by correspondingly lower productivity. This is typically not true for internationally traded goods.

Labor productivity in the auto, electronics and other Mexican maquiladora plants is close to, and sometimes above, that of American factories. Yet Mexican Government policies keep wages at a small fraction of what United States workers make. The disparity between wages and productivity causes expanded trade with the third world to erode living standards in advanced economies. That is why we need strong, enforceable labor standards at the core of any trade agreement. Yet our recent trade deals have protected the interests of international investors over those of workers.

You concede that we should protect labor and the environment but wrongly argue that Representative Bill Archer's proposed language for fast track is "a reasonable compromise."

Mr. Archer has said that the proposal is aimed not at strengthening labor and environment laws but at weakening them if they inhibit trade.

Those who care about labor and environmental protections are right to oppose a renewal of fast-track authority until such protections are as guaranteed as the property rights of investors.

JEFF FAUX
President, Economic Policy Institute
Washington, Sept. 9, 1997

Subverting Democracy

To the Editor:

"Mr. Clinton Deserves 'Fast Track'" (editorial, Sept. 8) glosses over that fast track is antidemocratic and creates injustices at home and abroad. Fast track gives inordinate power to the executive versus Congressional debate and public discussion. Additionally, the Founding Fathers were very clear on the need for the Senate to advise and consent to any United States treaty with foreign countries, inconvenient as it may be at times to muster a two-thirds vote.

(Rev.) PHILIP WHEATON
(Rev.) JAMES SCHREIDER
Washington, Sept. 9, 1997
The writers are Episcopal priests.

Secret Talks in Paris

To the Editor:

The premise for giving President Clinton fast-track authority, you say, is that "countries will not negotiate trade accords with Washington for fear of endless revision" (editorial, Sept. 8). Yet for the past two years the 29 industrialized members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have been secretly negotiating the Multilateral Agreement on Investment in Paris, with the United States very much involved.

The treaty's provisions will override state and local land use, environmental, economic development and labor laws, giving multinational firms rein in any signatory country. It bans performance requirements like the Federal Community Reinvestment Act and domestic content standards. A foreign company that believes the treaty is violated can sue the host government in a secret tribunal from which there is no appeal. Make no mistake, this is the treaty for which President Clinton needs fast-track authority.

ROBERT B. DENNIS
Dallas, Sept. 10, 1997
The writer is president of the Dallas Peace Center.

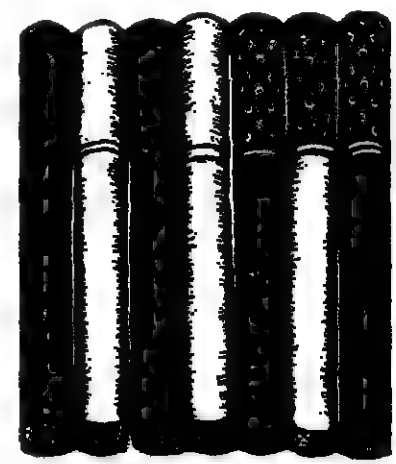
Big Tobacco Has Eyed China for a Century

To the Editor:

Re "Selling Cigarettes in Asia" (editorial, Sept. 10): The efforts of American cigarette manufacturers to hook the Chinese on their products are nothing new. Until the tobacco magnate James B. Duke led his American Tobacco Company into China a century ago, only a few Chinese, mostly older men, smoked a bitter native tobacco, usually in pipes.

Duke sent experts to Shantung Province with bright leaf from North Carolina to cultivate a milder tobacco. His minions hired "teachers" to walk the streets of villages showing curious Chinese how to light and hold cigarettes. Not only did Duke install the first mechanical cigarette-rolling machines in China, but he also unleashed a panoply of promotional devices.

One involved adorning cigarette packs with pictures of nude American actresses, which proved to be a big hit with Chinese men. Later, Duke successfully persuaded President Theodore Roosevelt to get the Chinese Gov-



Geoffrey Grubb

ernment to drop its ban on imported cigarettes. RICHARD GRAYSON
Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Sept. 11, 1997
The writer is an adjunct professor in the department of business and administration, Nova Southeastern U.

A Chance to Discover

To the Editor:

We all risk our lives daily when we hop into our cars or travel by airplane. We do this for the sake of convenience. Dietrich Fischer (letter, Sept. 9) questions why we should risk our lives with regard to an accident involving the Cassini space mission as it flies by Earth when insurance companies won't risk their money by assuming coverage on a possible nuclear accident.

Why not risk our lives for science and the chance of discovery when we so casually risk our lives for mere convenience?
JOHN HARPER
Paterson, N.J., Sept. 9, 1997

Real Life in Bulgaria

To the Editor:

What conceivable perspective would support a report's conclusion that Bulgaria outranks the United States in quality of life (news article, Sept. 7)?

Richard J. Estes of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Work is quoted as saying that "Bulgaria enjoys the legacy of social provision that characterized all of the states and partners of the former Soviet Union, i.e., high literacy, high access to at least basic health care, guaranteed housing."

For most of its people, however, Bulgaria is not responding to these needs. During the political and economic crisis this past spring, bread, gasoline and health care were virtually nonexistent.

Housing for many Bulgarians is a crumbling block with little heat and sometimes no water or electricity. Any comparison of countries should be based on real conditions, not on the failed promises of the Soviet Union. KATHERINE J. WILKINSON
Salem, Va., Sept. 9, 1997

The writer was an assistant professor at the American University in Bulgaria from 1994 to 1997.

Gender Studies 101

To the Editor:

As someone who is fascinated by grammar, I was initially pleased to read that Harvard is establishing a chair in gender studies (Education page, Sept. 10). I always wondered why different languages employed one, two, three or even four or more genders to classify nouns (and words agreeing with nouns).

Imagine my surprise when I discovered that Harvard was really establishing a chair in study of the sexes.

RICHARD K. GORDON
Washington, Sept. 11, 1997

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

Yale's Jewish Students Keep Faith and Thrive

To the Editor:

While I respect Elisha Dov Hack's choice not to be part of dorm life at Yale (Op-Ed, Sept. 8), I see no need for him to write about his disapproval of the Yale community. I'm an Orthodox Jew, too. I went through the same 12 years of training in Talmudic and rabbinical traditions that he did. I worked the same late nights that he must have worked to get accepted to Yale. Yet a crucial difference between us remains.

I'm glad to be here. Mr. Hack's dorming experience would have been the same as mine, because he was assigned to live next door to me in a six-person, single-sex suite. I wonder if he knows that three of his five prospective suite mates are Jewish, or that most of the people I've met on campus have confided that they have no intentions of having sex in the near future. Apparently he never took the opportunity to find these things out.

A lot of Orthodox Jews have, though. There is Dan, who studies Talmudic law with me every morning, and Jesse, who organizes three prayer groups every day. There are Evan and Sara, who run the kosher kitchen, and many more people than I can count on two hands. Thanks to Yale for giving us the opportunity to grow without sacrificing our beliefs.

SAUL NADATA
New Haven, Sept. 10, 1997

Progress on Plastics?

To the Editor:

I read your Sept. 8 Business Day article on plastics with interest. The development of stronger, clearer, harder plastics no doubt represents progress, "offering new life to an old product." I could be wildly enthusiastic about these developments had you touted the new plastics as more easily recyclable or reformulated than current products.

Since you never mention that aspect, I can only assume the new plastics will end up where many of the old ones have: in landfills and littered along roadways. That's not real progress. MARY ANN STERNBERG
Baton Rouge, La., Sept. 9, 1997

The New York Times Company

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From Closet to Screen

To the Editor:

Your Sept. 10 Arts pages article on Hollywood's changing attitudes toward straight actors playing gay roles failed to examine all possible reasons for Tinseltown's sudden change of heart. Hollywood has lately been having a difficult time holding the public's attention, a fact demonstrated this summer by all the big-budget flops. Studios are desperately looking for that next big trend, and some think they have found it: homosexuality.

As a skeptic I really have to wonder whether the new willingness of actors to play gay roles is the result of a sincere effort to lead a more enlightened existence. Or are these just a bunch of opportunistic actors looking to reinvigorate sagging careers?

ERIC J. BARNARD
New York, Sept. 11, 1997

To the Editor:

Re your Sept. 10 Arts pages article on gay movie characters: Gay men in general may no longer be portrayed as "perverts and killers or freaks or grotesques," but one group still is: gay stutterers. Look at "Johns," in which the gay stutterer was truly evil, or "Love! Valour! Compassion!," a film chock full of gay-friendly images, yet in which the writer Terrence McNally fell back on the hoary stereotype of "speech block equals psychological and creative block."

Advocates for those who stutter have for too long viewed Porky Pig as their bete noire while ignoring the many media portrayals that reinforce negative attitudes toward adult stutterers.

DAVID E. ANDERSON
Chicago, Sept. 11, 1997

Mobutu's Kenyan Kin

To the Editor:

Your Sept. 8 front-page article on the death of Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire describes him as "the last of a generation of cold war rulers who grew fabulously rich by providing a bulwark against Communism." There is another who falls under this rubric and who is alive and well: Daniel arap Moi of Kenya. In 19 years in power he has accrued enormous wealth through Western aid provided unconditionally while his people live in dire poverty.

Your same-day news article describes how Mr. Moi's police force again cracked down on an opposition rally. His determination to hang on to power could lead him to a similar fate as that which befell Mr. Mobutu: ouster by force and death in exile and infamy.

NATHAN KRYSSTALL
Brooklyn, Sept. 11, 1997

Essay

WILLIAM SAFIRE

New Kind
Of 'Dirty
Tricks'

WASHINGTON
The latest Clinton money trail begins in the unprecedented contact made by D.N.C. chairman Don Fowler with an agent of the C.I.A.'s Directorate of Operations, fondly remembered as the Department of Dirty Tricks.

Fowler's "client" was Roger Tamraz, a shady oilman buying face time with Bill Clinton for \$300,000 to tout a pipeline deal across Turkey. At Tamraz's direction, fund-raiser Fowler twice spoke to the C.I.A. agent known as "Bob." Fowler has since been struck by timely amnesia.

Perhaps Bob and colleagues sprinkled intelligence holy water over this fugitive oilman, because warnings that Tamraz had "significant financial and ethical problems" were overridden. Clinton then met four times in the White House with Tamraz. After one direct pitch, Clinton told his sandbox crony Mack McLarty to put in a good word for Tamraz at the Energy Department, a corrupt order that McLarty carried out.

While the President was trying to put in this fix, Tamraz told the Directorate that he was holding high-level talks in Moscow about paying much more to Boris Yeltsin, who also needed money for his presidential campaign.

Now think like a spook: here was some astonishing intelligence. One oilman was apparently trying to buy the favor of the presidents of two superpowers, and the Directorate could confirm that money was passing to the campaign of at least one of them.

What did the C.I.A. — charged with keeping our President and National Security Council informed of matters affecting high policy — do with this sensitive information?

If our covert intelligence agents, whose office calls are routinely recorded, knew of what seems to be a grandiose influence-buying plot, then they were duty-bound to pass it up the line for evaluation and preventive action. That's what our \$30 billion intelligence apparatus is for.

But stories clash. I tracked down William Lofgren, Bob's boss at the D.O., who quit in February 1996 as head of its Asian bureau, after 30 years of clandestine service, and became a consultant for three months to — you guessed it — Roger Tamraz. "We sent a memo that told of Fowler's call to poor Bob up to the Seventh Floor," Lofgren claims, which would dispute more damaging memos being examined by the C.I.A. Inspector General. "The routing sheet was to everybody, but now they

Clinton's
rogue C.I.A.
Directorate.

say nobody ever saw it."

I spoke to John Deutch, now at M.I.T., who was Director of Central Intelligence (on the Seventh Floor) during 1995 and '96, when fund-raiser Fowler, oilman Tamraz, C.I.A. agents Bob and Lofgren, the President of the United States and his Energy Department liaison were hip-deep in this caldron of modern graft. Was the Directorate informed?

Deutch is certain he was not. "Any unauthorized contact between anyone in the Directorate of Operations and the D.N.C.," he tells me, seething, "was a serious abuse of the political system." He didn't authorize any and seemed fairly certain that George Tenet, then his deputy and now his successor as D.C.I., also was not informed of this rogue operation.

So what's to be done about it, if the evidence is classified and witnesses hidden? "I see no reason why any inquiries on this should be classified," says Deutch, ordinarily a fierce protector of intelligence sources and methods. "That goes for the Justice Department, the Congress and the C.I.A."

He is right to be outraged. If the covert-action Directorate within the C.I.A. fails to alert agency leadership to political abuse; if Samuel Berger, then Deputy N.S.C. Director, was too too docile at Clinton-Gore campaign meetings to object to arms dealers, drug dealers and oil promoters being sold the run of the White House — then something terrible is happening.

Two generations ago, an angry public forced Eisenhower chief of staff Sherman Adams out of office in disgrace for making a call to an agency about a contributor; today Clinton himself tells a White House aide to do more for a donor and we shrug it off.

One generation ago, Congress found the C.I.A. to be a "rogue elephant," and an aroused public forced a shakeup; today we have Clinton's rogue Directorate in bed with political wheeler-dealers and the reaction is ho-hum.

Why? Former spymaster Lofgren, the recent Tamraz consultant, has a philosophical answer: "Our threshold of outrage has been raised." □



Israel's Uneasy State

By Geoffrey Wheatcroft

JERUSALEM
As Madeleine Albright has bluntly acknowledged, her visit here last week was not a success. There are to be meetings between Israeli and Palestinian leaders in Washington, but you have to be a wild optimist to expect much from these in the present circumstances. The Secretary of State may well feel that her lengthy previous distillation to imitate her predecessor's ceaseless jetting in and out of here was justified in the event.

She may also have had time to sense how despondent and edgy the mood here is. This somber atmosphere is thrown into highlight by three anniversaries Israel is celebrating this year, though maybe "trying to celebrate" would be nearer. Last month saw the 100th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, where Theodor Herzl expounded to a select and enthusiastic audience the audacious idea that he had already set out the year before in his little book "The Jewish State."

November sees the 50th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. In the midst of World War I, the British Government, acting from a mixture of idealism and political calculation, approved the creation of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine, the first decisive victory of political Zionism on the road to the birth of Israel in 1948. And June saw the 30th anniversary of the Six-Day War, the most exultant moment in Israel's history. These anniversaries all say something about Jewish nationalism, and Israeli national unity.

In 1897 and for years after, Herzl's idea excited intense zeal among some Jews, but only a quite small minority. Many Jews rejected Zionism actively or passively. Orthodox rabbis were almost unanimously hostile about those "strangers" who had "arisen among us," as one rabbi put it, teaching that "the people of Israel should be clothed in secular nationalism, a nation like other nations. . . . May the Lord rebuke these evil men and may He who chooseth Jerusalem seal their mouths."

Here in Jerusalem today there are purist haredim who refuse to recognize the state. Other Orthodox do recognize it, and expect it to do their bidding, while declining to perform military service. In one of many developments quite unforeseen by the post-religious or even frankly atheist Jews who were the Zionist pioneers, the Orthodox are the growing force in Israel, not least because they are the only Israelis who have a higher birth rate than the Arabs.

Other Jews rejected Zionism in favor of other secular schemes of redemption, usually some variety of Socialism. Others again silently turned their backs by making their way to America rather than the Land of Israel. And prosperous emancipated Jews everywhere were shocked by Herzl's idea, which seemed to threaten their position as loyal Americans, Englishmen, Frenchmen or Austrians.

As Chaim Weizmann and his colleagues were fighting to have the Balfour Declaration adopted, they were fiercely opposed by other Jews. In London, the only Jew in the Cabinet, Edwin Montagu, fought the Declaration to the end, bitterly asking his colleagues why they wanted to send him off to an "Oriental ghetto." And two leading figures of English Jewry wrote to The Times of London deploring "the establishment of a

Jewish nationality in Palestine," which "must have the effect throughout the world of stamping the Jews as strangers in their native lands, and of undermining their hard won position as citizens and nationals of those lands."

Fifty years on seemed a light-year. A Jewish state had been created by

National divisions
complicate ties
with the U.S.

huge human endeavor, but in the shadow of the greatest catastrophe in Jewish history. Any earlier misgivings Jews had about Zionism had been silenced by Hitler. Then, in the summer of 1967, came the Six-Day War, that extraordinary, terrifying, then ecstatic week when the children of Israel seemed about to undergo another unimaginable disaster, but instead won a heroic victory.

There may never have been any country in history as united as Israel that summer. And the diaspora was intensely united with Israel also, as anyone who remembers that summer will recall.

And today? From being one of the most united countries on earth only 30 years ago, Israel is now one of the most divided. I don't mean the divisions between Jew and Arab, though those are severe enough, as severe as the division between black and white in Johannesburg when I was reporting from there 15 years ago.

More alarming still from Israel's point of view is the division between Jew and Jew. Mr. Netanyahu's photo-finish victory last year demonstrated this, not because it was so close but because, in a sense, it wasn't. Although only a fraction of a percentage point divided him from Shimon Peres, if the election had been confined to greater Jerusalem, Oriental Jews and the Orthodox, Mr. Netanyahu would have won a landslide. And if it had been confined to greater Tel Aviv, European Jews and the secular, the landslide would have gone the other way.

A poll last week reported in the newspaper Maariv has found that 33 percent of Israelis are opposed to the Oslo accords. And 55 percent are dissatisfied with Mr. Netanyahu's policy toward the Palestinian Authority, though that includes his critics from either side, left and right.

Of course any open democracy can be called divided, but in Israel there is a difference of degree which becomes one of kind. In entire, large, discrete communities — in the settlements, or extended Orthodox families in and around Jerusalem — there is not a single person who has voted Labor in living memory. And this is true on the other side: Matthew Engel of The London Guardian is correct in my observation when he says that a member of the professional upper middle class in Tel Aviv can go for a year without meeting a Likud voter socially.

Those deep divisions within Israel are almost harder for Ms. Albright to deal with than the Israeli-Arab divide. She rightly said that bombs cannot be equated with bulldozers, though she also asked Israel to "refrain from unilateral acts," clearly referring to the construction of new Jewish settlements. She will have been irritated by the response from David Bar-Ilan, Mr. Netanyahu's chief spokesman, that Israel can no more freeze settlements "than it can freeze life." But even so she would

In America

BOB HERBERT

Punishing the Truth

Hessy Phelan was a tiny guy, a shade under 5 feet tall and something less than 100 pounds, but he liked to drink and his friends agree that when he was under the influence he could become obnoxious. He had a mouth on him and he tried to act bigger than he was. Most people understood what that was about.

Mr. Phelan grew up in Northern Ireland and had been imprisoned for his involvement with an offshoot of the Irish Republican Army. He didn't like to talk about his time "behind the wire." A few years ago he settled in the Bronx, where he made his living painting houses.

One Saturday night in January, 1996, Mr. Phelan was in a neighborhood tavern, the Oak Bar on East 206th Street, near Rochambeau Avenue, getting drunk on beers and white Russians. A friend, Maggie McGrath, was tending bar. By midnight Mr. Phelan was making a lot of noise and, in Ms. McGrath's words, had become "very difficult."

She eventually asked her boyfriend, a policeman named Richard Molloy, who was off-duty, to take Mr. Phelan to her apartment, a fourth-floor walk-up across the street from the bar. Ms. McGrath, who described Mr. Phelan as "like a horse jockey, if that big," thought she was doing him a favor. He would be out of harm's way and would probably fall asleep.

Witnesses would later say that Officer Molloy was unnecessarily rough to the way he removed Mr. Phelan from the bar. They said he twisted the smaller man's arm behind his back, yanked him from the stool and dragged him out to the street.

It was about 12:30 A.M. when the two men got to Ms. McGrath's apartment. The door was opened by Cormac Lee, who rented a bedroom from Ms. McGrath. Officer Molloy and Mr. Phelan went into the living room. Mr. Lee would later say that from his bedroom he could hear the two men talking, and then he heard Mr. Phelan angrily shout, "Go on! Go on!" And then he heard a shot.

The bullet from Officer Molloy's 38-caliber service revolver entered Mr. Phelan's left eye at extremely close range, passed through his brain and exited the back of his head. Mr. Phelan, who was seated on a sofa when he was shot, fell backward. His eye was gone and he gasped desperately for breath. He would be pronounced dead a little more than an hour later.

Mr. Lee recalls that when he rushed into the living room he saw Officer

Molloy standing no more than two feet from Mr. Phelan. There was no gun in sight. Investigators said the gun, with one spent shell and five live rounds, was in Officer Molloy's pocket.

Mr. Molloy's version of what happened was interesting. He said Mr. Phelan committed suicide. He said the drunken man had somehow grabbed the revolver, which was in a holster attached to the officer's belt, placed it right up against his eye, and fired. He

The killing of
Hessy Phelan.

did it quickly, before Officer Molloy could stop him. There was no coherent explanation of how the gun ended up in the officer's pocket. Perhaps Mr. Phelan, after shooting himself, was considerate enough to give the weapon back to its owner. Maybe he was able to slip the gun into the officer's pocket as quickly and effortlessly as he had seized it from the holster.

Investigators from the office of Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson did not believe Officer Molloy's story. Court papers filed by the District Attorney said Officer Molloy confronted Mr. Lee in the men's room of the Oak Bar on the day after the shooting. The officer blocked the door and demanded to know what Mr. Lee had told investigators. Mr. Lee said he replied: "I told them nothing, Richie."

An autopsy determined that the wound to Mr. Phelan, whose full name was Patrick Heslin Phelan, could not have been self-inflicted. Officer Molloy was indicted last October on a second-degree murder charge. But the District Attorney, for some reason, did not argue that he had killed Mr. Phelan deliberately, only that he had acted recklessly and had exhibited a depraved indifference to human life "by shoving a loaded gun into a man's eye and pulling the trigger."

A judge threw the indictment out, saying there was no evidence of "reckless" behavior by Officer Molloy. That ruling is being appealed by the District Attorney and will be argued Sept. 23. Meanwhile, Officer Molloy remains on modified duty, without his badge or his gun.

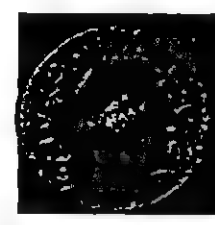
The obvious question — why he wasn't charged with intentionally killing Mr. Phelan — remains, to be answered.

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Geoffrey Wheatcroft is the author of "The Controversy of Zion: Jewish Nationalism, the Jewish State and the Unresolved Jewish Dilemma."

THE ARTS

Teaming Up to Help Another Underdog Fight Free

By MICHAEL DWYER

AT THE CENTER of a glittering London ballroom, two middleweight fighters are slugging it out in the ring before an audience of 300 well-fed patrons, resplendent in evening dress, their tables littered with the remains of dinner, half-empty bottles of wine and overflowing ashtrays. As the blasé audience followed the boxers' moves, the bout inspires parallels with gladiatorial combat in the arenas of ancient Rome.

The writer-director Jim Sheridan and the cinematographer Chris Menges watch the climactic fight sequence of their new film, "The Boxer," intently as the former pro boxer Clayton Stewart throws punches at Daniel Day-Lewis in this choreographed match. They are surrounded by the crowd of extras on the vast set recreated at Ardmore Studios, near Dublin.

"Those are people eating and drinking and smoking and placing wagers on fighters they don't even know the names of," Mr. Day-Lewis said later. "Often they're not fight fans, just fat cats on a night out."

"The Boxer," now being completed and due for release in December, is the third collaboration between the chameleonlike actor and the acclaimed Irish filmmaker. Here they have reunited to make yet another human drama about Irish society's underdogs, following "My Left Foot," which earned Mr. Day-Lewis the Academy Award for best actor in 1990, and "In the Name of the Father," which received seven Oscar nominations four years later.

It is an intense collaboration, akin to the collaborations of the director Martin Scorsese and the actor Robert De Niro, a comparison all the more inevitable now that Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Day-Lewis have taken on the world of boxing, which Mr. De Niro and Mr. Scorsese captured so triumphantly with the 1980 film "Raging Bull."

This drama tells the present-day tale of Danny Boy Flynn (Mr. Day-Lewis), a once-promising boxer who gets involved with the Irish Republican Army and is jailed for 14 years by the British.

When Flynn returns to Belfast, he is determined to make a new life for himself, and he becomes involved again with his former love, Maggie (played by Emily Watson, the star of "Breaking the Waves"). As he tries for a comeback in the ring, his victories help rekindle hope in the beleaguered city.

The original notion for "The Boxer" came to Mr. Sheridan, a 48-year-old Dubliner, in 1984 when he was living in New York and working as a theater director at the Irish Arts Center.

"It's a completely different perspective when you're living in America and you see news from Ireland," he said. "All you see is bombing and the latest shooting, and nothing else."

Watching television one night, he saw the Irish fighter Barry McGuigan winning the world featherweight boxing championship and was struck by the charisma of his homeland's hero. Mr. Sheridan wrote a screenplay, essentially the "Barry McGuigan story." "I tried to dramatize it, but it quickly became clichéd and obvious," he said.

Later, discussing the idea with Terry George, with whom he wrote "In the Name of the Father" and last year's "Some Mother's Son," they transformed the real story of McGuigan into an entirely fictional one. "I set out to make a film about a man who, having been a rebel and been to prison for it, decides to fight only within the rules," Mr. Sheridan explained.

"Finally, the film became three stories: A love story, an I.R.A. story and a boxing story."

While making a boxing story, it was of course impossible to ignore those that had come before. Mr. Day-

Lewis cites John Huston's 1972 "Fat City," starring Stacy Keach as the most powerful boxing film he has ever seen. As for "Raging Bull," "I don't really think of that so much as a film about boxing," said Mr. Day-Lewis. "I believe 'Raging Bull' to be one of the greatest films I've ever seen, but as for boxing itself, I suppose 'Fat City' addressed a level of the game that no other film did. Nothing else quite tells the story of that dreadful, decaying world where physiques are beginning to get run down and they're in places that are falling apart."

Mr. Sheridan studied "Raging Bull" shot by shot, and he said he felt completely intimidated by Mr. Scorsese's accomplishment. "Not only is it a great film, but after a while you realize that (a) it's very difficult to do, (b) you can't repeat it, and (c) Martin Scorsese's used up all the options — slow-motion, black-and-white, close-ups, amazing camera angles. So somehow it can never be as good again and I didn't want to go down that road."

His cinematographer, Mr. Menges, who has won Oscars for his work on "The Killing Fields" (1984) and "The Mission" (1986) maintains that "The Boxer" was his most challenging film.

"Because the script was evolving as it went along, the style was more to grab the moment," Mr. Menges said. "For the fight scenes, we did some very exciting work with the camera suspended from a 26-inch piece of rubber, which gave a really raw, vibrant feel to the boxing and afforded so many options for change. A lot of the film was shot with handheld cameras, which added to its nervous energy."

This intense mode of filmmaking was perfectly suited to its star. An actor known for his attention to detail and obsessive preparation for his roles — he learned to wield a paintbrush and a pen with his toes to portray the crippled Irish writer-

Irish director Jim Sheridan is filming a tale of Belfast in 'The Boxer.'

painter Christy Brown in "My Left Foot" — Mr. Day-Lewis said he had been training as a boxer for three years.

"With the film in mind, I've been preparing for it for a year," he said. "And with the film as a tantalizing half-possibility, for a couple of years before that. But most of the training I was doing before we decided to do the film was purely for its own sake."

Once the movie became a reality last year, Mr. Day-Lewis went into training with the former world champion himself, Mr. McGuigan, who now runs an organization in Ireland dedicated to improving conditions for boxers.

FOLLOWED HIS CAREER to some extent and had been so enthralled by him as a fighter," said Mr. Day-Lewis, who is impressively muscular for this role. "To actually have the opportunity to train with someone like that is something else, and I trained with him the whole time. Barry was tremendously encouraging all the way." (So much so that Mr. McGuigan said recently on Irish radio that Mr. Day-Lewis could take on any of the top 10 middleweights in Britain. "I don't know about that," said the embarrassed actor, laughing hard.)

To stage all his own bouts, Mr. Day-Lewis had to stay in readiness for a fight throughout the 16-week shoot: the film was shot nearly in sequence with a boxing contest at the beginning, middle and end.



In His Corner: Jim Sheridan, center, directs Daniel Day-Lewis in "The Boxer." It is the third film born of an intense collaboration.

"It's not what fighters do," the actor said. "Like all athletics, you train toward peak of fitness and then there's the event and you go into a little trough afterward. You move with that kind of ebb and flow. I found it very hard to keep up to scratch the whole time."

Did he suffer for his art? "Nothing serious," he said. "Just the usual black eyes and bloody noses. I got stopped in my tracks once, just for a couple of standing counts, by a young amateur fighter who caught me with a few good left hooks in a gym in London."

Though a fighter, the character he plays, said Mr. Day-Lewis, is a quiet man: "He feels that through the decision he has made, a large part of his life has been thrown away, and he wants to do something to set the record straight for himself, just to feel he's done something in his life that's O.K. and has some value to it. He was tremendously idealistic as a younger man and there remains a seed of optimism, which remains untainted but is harder to reach and harder to believe in after what he's been through."

While the sport is violent, Mr. Day-Lewis has great respect for it. "The degree of discipline and respect in boxing gyms is unparalleled," he said. "Ironically," he added, "boxing gyms can open up little pockets of tranquility, as they do for my character in the film. They're very often places where all arguments are settled and what remains is a huge sense of community and serenity which you don't find in the same form anywhere else."

For the director, tackling another story involving the I.R.A. was "deliberate," even — or maybe especially — after the flak he and Mr. George received over their two fact-based films, "In the Name of the Father," in which Mr. Day-Lewis portrayed the wrongly convicted Belfast man, Gerry Conlon, and "Some Mother's Son," which was also about the explosive politics of Northern Ireland. "I made 'In the Name of the Father' and I believed in the truth of it — forget the incidental detail. I'm not a nationalist; maybe I'm republican. Then the I.R.A. set off a car bomb in England, and that focused my thoughts."

"I think violence, taken out of the moral sphere, is a stupid way to solve things. It's — Neanderthal. So I thought, 'I don't want to endorse this' and maybe I should make the film about someone who fights within the

rules. At some point we have to accept that there are rules for discourse and rules for politics. But that implies activating ourselves politically to take on the wrongs. Most people who say 'I'm against the I.R.A., I'm against violence' do nothing about the wrongs, and I think that's bad. At the same time, if you're always a rebel, always against something, you're never going to have a vision for change."

"In the film it's never specified why Flynn's in jail and it's important, I think, that it's not. It's enough to know that he was deep into the I.R.A., probably in one of the first car bombings, and he didn't carry it through. There's no moral ground for putting a bomb in a car in any situation, and I suppose it's that he objected to."

Mr. Sheridan is braced for possible

controversy arising from "The Boxer." "Life and death are more important than movies," he said, "so people are judging these films on the impact they might have on people in the streets. That's the tragedy of us in Ireland making these stories. They shouldn't have that effect. It should have been all over years ago."

As of early last week, as a real-life cease-fire was holding in Northern Ireland, this story seemed all the more topical, placed against its backdrop of two opposing factions within the I.R.A., one urging continued armed struggle, the other seeking a peaceful solution. Mr. Sheridan touched wood as he expressed the wish that the present cease-fire would hold.

Mr. Sheridan believes that the American writer Joyce Carol Oates

has the best take on the game, as expressed in her book "On Boxing."

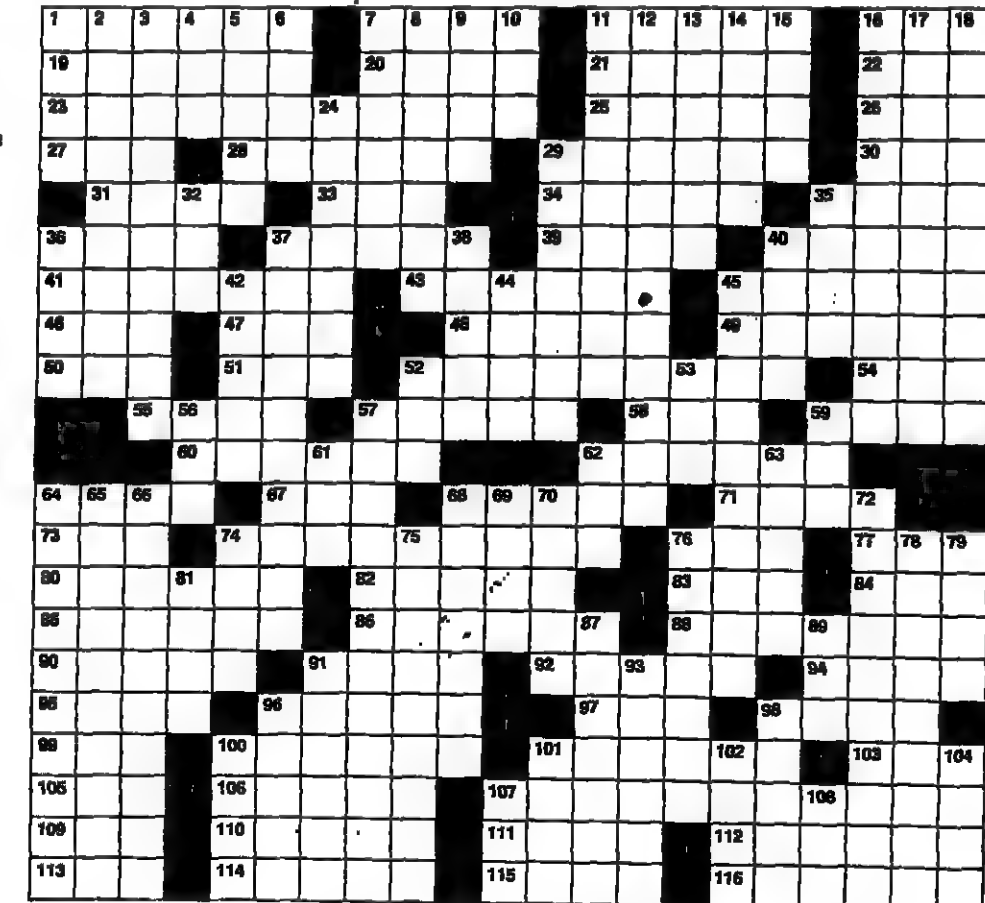
"She says that men will change their allegiance in a boxing match from the guy they're supporting to the winner, and maybe not even be conscious about changing sides," he said. "She believes women are always on the side of the loser and don't change sides. Men find that hard to understand and the dominant society find that hard to understand — going with the victim, the underdog — except in Ireland, which, because of its history, always will go with the underdog. That's why the outside world sometimes finds it hard to understand our affinity with the underdog and our stories about them."

Michael Dwyer is the film correspondent of The Irish Times.

POINT BLANKS

BY FRANK LONGO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 March event
 - 7 — law (1 = w/r)
 - 11 They may appear in the long run
 - 16 "The Phantom of the Opera" star, 1962
 - 19 Apper
 - 20 TV actress Spelling
 - 21 Sound from the bleachers
 - 22 She played Sarah in "The Bible"
 - 23 Hardly Mensa material
 - 25 Kind of session
 - 26 Understanding
 - 27 Hard rock, maybe
 - 28 Suburb north of Seattle
 - 29 Mole, for one
 - 30 Directional suffix
 - 31 Werhol icon Sedgwick
 - 33 Medit. nation
 - 34 Trick
 - 35 Stem joint
 - 36 "The Adventure" ("Star Wars" spinoff)
 - 37 Group of plants
 - 39 Bitzy beginning
 - 40 Like
 - 41 "Gilligan's Island" actress
 - 43 1974 hit subtitled "Touch the Wind"
 - 45 Composer Prokofiev
 - 46 "Exodus" role
 - 47 John of York
 - 48 Pizzeria patron
 - 49 Property of housepets?
 - 50 Tackled
 - 51 Hay morsel
 - 52 Reassurer's words
 - 54 Animation
 - 55 Perfect
 - 57 Ending with blind or broad
 - 58 Kilowatt-hour traction
 - 59 Congratulations, of a sort
 - 60 Decline
 - 62 Bereavements
 - 64 "It Happened One Night" producer
 - 67 Violinist Jean-Ponty
 - 68 Dosage amts.
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 - 73 Nigerian language
 - 74 Book stores?
 - 76 Cozened
 - 77 First Lady of 1900
 - 80 Magazine that debuted 2/17/83
 - 82 Cheer
 - 83 — Darya (Asian river)
 - 84 When repeated twice, a 1984 pop hit
 - 85 Botswanan problem
 - 86 Go-getters
 - 88 Portray
 - 90 Grenoble's river
 - 91 Battle of Coronel admiral, 1914



- 6 Not lethargic
- 7 Idle
- 8 Center of a roast
- 9 Rocky Lane spoke for him
- 10 Tom Sawyer's half brother
- 11 One letting go
- 12 Couch potatoes, often
- 13 "The Furs" novelist James
- 14 Wrapped up
- 15 School reward
- 16 Lausanne lies on it
- 17 Is intemperate
- 18 Quirks, say
- 24 "These Dreams" singer, 1966
- 29 Maniacal
- 32 Guitar-picking pioneer Everly
- 35 Math calculation
- 36 North Holland seaport
- 37 Delicate
- 38 In a difficult position
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- 42 Open tract
- 44 Drip site
- 45 Ethel Merman and Jack Benny, e.g.
- 52 "Children of the Albatross" author
- 53 Conductor — Klas
- 56 Hold
- 57 Logging-on need
- 59 Sorority letter
- 61 Torpedo
- 62 A.M.A. members
- 63 Disgusted
- 64 .6102 cubic inch
- 65 Frederick Forsyth best seller, with "The"
- 66 1975 James Taylor hit
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- 69 Angler's hope
- 70 Chaldeans
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- 74 — majesté
- 75 Turus away
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- 78 Duds at work
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- 81 To be, in Bordeaux
- 87 Cave
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- 96 Bellyache
- 98 Kind of hound
- 100 U.S.N. personnel
- 101 Enter
- 102 Itchings
- 104 Unwind
- 107 Depression-era units
- 108 Resource to be tapped?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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REPRINTS ESTEE DETERS



Lost Love: Mr. Day-Lewis and Emily Watson as the woman he tries to win back in "The Boxer."



The public Leibowitz was perceived as cold and condescending, but thousands knew his warmth and endless willingness to help others.

Thundering Leibowitz

This weekend marked three years since the passing of a man whose learning evoked awe and whose pronouncements aroused fury. Zev Golan describes what it was like being the student of a towering scholar

I incurred the wrath of Professor Yeshayahu Leibowitz. It was my first appearance at the intimate philosophy readings the professor led every Saturday night for the last several decades of his life.

Leibowitz was going to introduce me to his friends, but only got as far as "This is..." before realizing he'd forgotten my name.

With a disdainful wave of his hand he left my identity hanging, and sat down to read Plato. I introduced myself and took a chair I would warm for the next eight years.

Early on that night Leibowitz quoted Wittgenstein. Whether the

subject of a Leibowitzian lecture was Plato or Maimonides, Leibowitz would refer easily to the Talmud, Islamic philosophy, Greek and German etymology or quantum mechanics to make a point.

He himself studied and taught everything from philosophy to neurophysiology.

That night, the Wittgenstein citation inspired me to ask a question — and that was when Leibowitz treated me to one of the thunderous rebukes for which he was famous: "YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WITTGENSTEIN!"

For a moment, I was emotionally paralyzed. But any thoughts about my own cognitive inadequacy were shortly allayed when the professor's wife Greta asked a question of her own a few minutes later.

"YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND!" Leibowitz roared at her. Now, Greta is no intellectual slouch. She holds a doctorate in mathematics, and has taught it too. (The Leibowitzes left Europe for Eretz Israel in 1935 after he obtained his medical degree.)

So as far as rebukes went, I was in good company.

And Leibowitz — known for his cold commitment to logic and his stern countenance — confessed on more than one occasion that he attached more importance to Greta than to anything or anyone else in the world. "A wife is the most important factor in any man's life," he ruled.

The public Leibowitz was perceived as cold and condescending. He castigated political Left and Right, prime ministers and chief rabbis alike. And he castigated those who asked questions he didn't like. Years passed before I understood the method to his madness.

In the Haggadah, Leibowitz taught, the opposite of the wise son is not the evil son, but the son who

doesn't know how to ask.

Leibowitz forced his students to think, to work questions over in their minds like chess players before posing them. He literally forced you to ask the right questions.

Yet Leibowitz, the man who was arguably Israel's greatest philosopher — said to know more about Maimonides than Maimonides — was more than his fearsome posture let on. His warmth, devotion and endless willingness to help others was known to the thousands who

"I stopped believing in God after the Holocaust," someone once said to him. "Then you never believed in God," was Leibowitz's answer.

stopped the slightly stooped old man on the street to explore philosophical issues, or who telephoned late into the night with existential crises.

Leibowitz was there for them all, anytime, anywhere.



Not Page One

The triplet boom: Hard to conceive

By Sam Orbaum

There's a family in Petah Tikva. The father's unemployed and they're on welfare. They had three children — one of them removed to a boarding school because of suspected child abuse.

Not a model family. You know what some brilliant doctor did for them? He gave them fertility drugs.

They had triplets. Another Israeli couple: he's got cerebral palsy, she's disabled from myasthenia gravis. Hers is a grim, debilitating muscle disorder, and it's hereditary. They were struggling along with a nine-month-old baby when her gynecologist, with supreme wisdom, prescribed fertility drugs.

They had triplets.

A young Ra'anana couple: blessedly fertile. She wanted to alter her cycle for religious reasons. "Here, take this," her doctor said. He gave her fertility drugs. Didn't explain what it was, she trusted him enough not to ask.

They had triplets. A Jerusalem mother: Maybe her gynecologist woke up stupid that

strain on medical facilities, and in emotional trauma for the families. US figures show incidence of child abuse in families with multiples is higher.

Even in the best of circumstances, when the babies are all healthy, it is usually too much of a good thing: Families struggle for years. Marital counseling becomes the norm, and the incidence of breakups is high. In some cases, even mothers have fled.

Associations for triplet families worldwide, including Israel's Triplets Plus, have as many horror stories to tell as happy ones.

Expectant parents are often forced to make a decision that torments them for life. The doctor, having recklessly over-implanted, may then offer the staggered couple a grisly choice: kill some of the growing embryos, or risk losing them all.

Well, what would you decide?

It's a matter of scientific complicity: The procedure is routine for the practitioner; for his patient, the result is immensely fateful. The scientist's concern is how to make babies, not how to

There are always the perils of bureaucracy involved in obtaining assistance to feed your threesome. One National Insurance Institute clerk showed astounding insensitivity to an expectant Negev father over assistance. "Ask me again next month," she barked back, "if all three babies are still alive."

morning; he did not bother to ask some very basic questions, and prescribed treatment. Mind you, he was not unsuccessful: She did ovulate. Not just one egg, as is the norm, but twenty eggs. What the hell, he figured, let's see what happens if I implant five of 'em.

Triplets. There's been an explosion of technologically engineered multiple births in this country — and throughout the Western world — in the past decade. Well over 500 Israeli families have borne children in bunches of three or more; nature accounts for about one-seventh of such births, science the rest.

Israel is believed to have the world's highest per-capita number of IVF centers producing test-tube babies; one city, Bnei Brak, has what may be the highest rate of multiple births in the world. There are at least 60 such families there, two with two sets of triplets each.

Many experts — none yet in Israel — have come to realize that fertility enhancement, even for a barren couple craving a baby, is a multiple predicament. In Britain, and a growing number of US states, it is now illegal to implant more than three eggs in IVF procedures, chancing that maybe one or two might take. Some experts feel even that is too many. Here, five are commonly implanted.

It is a multiple predicament indeed: Most such infants are born too early and too small. Serious medical problems are common, and keep many babies in intensive care for weeks or months. Some die; others are afflicted for life.

The cost is enormous: in economic terms for the state, in the

raise them. If he conjures up a batch, he has succeeded; if the parents can't cope, it's their failure.

One of the world's foremost fertility experts, Dr. Robert Winston of London, clamors vociferously for ethical considerations to wrest precedence from technological egoism.

Couples should be counseled before starting treatment; three babies at once is a brutal burden; limited failure is preferable to excess success. In Israel, families with multiples are better off than in most countries. Governmental aid is comparatively generous, with both the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and National Insurance Institute chipping in. But it's a limited pie, and as more and more families claim a slice, the inevitable happens: Last year, in both Dimona and Jerusalem, the money ran out by September. Desperately needed payments were abruptly stopped.

(And then, there are always the perils of bureaucracy: One NII clerk showed astounding insensitivity to an expectant Negev father inquiring about assistance. "Ask me again next month," she barked back, "if all three babies are still alive.")

Israeli lobbyists for controlled fertility treatment find little sympathy, in large part because this country is mad about children: If one is a blessing, three are three blessings. Even if it is, shall we say, a blessing disguised.

One mother gave birth to triplets. Two have Down's. "I thank God that two of them have it," she said, "because they'll always have each other."

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1997 - 1998

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To Our Readers

Some of the advertisements appearing in our papers are type set outside The Post. When such an advertisement arrives just before the publication deadline, especially when it is provided in the form of a film, it is difficult for us to correct any spelling mistakes that may appear.

While we make every effort to correct such errors, we must ask our readers' indulgence for those occasions when this is not possible.

The Advertising Department

NEWS

of the muse

Koldmamma Dance Co. remembers Rabin

How To Remember. Moshe Efrati's new full-length ballet for his Koldmamma Dance Company, had its world premiere last night at the Saloniki International Dance Festival in Greece. Much influenced by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin two years ago, the work is about confronting the pain of remembering the past. Efrati, who won the 1997 Israel Prize for his contribution to dance, arranged the music and designed the piece. The Israeli premiere will take place at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv on September 27.

Helen Kaye

Haifa Theater finally gets its man

Director Ronny Pinkowitz, 33, has been appointed general manager of the Haifa Theater, replacing Oded Kottler who resigned after seven years. This is Pinkowitz's first managerial job, but he comes to it with a master's degree in theater management from Middlesex University in the UK. He's also familiar with the theater, having been in-house director last season, directing *Angels in America* among others. He held the same position at Habimah from 1991-95.

Helen Kaye

Batsheva Dance Company wows Japan

The Batsheva Dance Company's Japanese tour got off to a flying start last week with four performances of Ohad Naharin's *Zilba* at Saitama, near Tokyo. BD then performed his *Anaphase* in Tokyo. There have also been master classes for Japanese dance students with Naharin, a former top dancer, at the Saitama Dance Academy. Batsheva has been invited back to Tokyo, an important international dance venue, in 2000.

Helen Kaye

Ed Koch presides over 'People's Court'

Ed Koch has tackled plenty in his 72 years, most notably during his three terms as mayor of New York. Therefore, he's hardly daunted by the prospect of taking over the esteemed Joseph Wapner as judge of a new version of that '80s TV staple, *The People's Court*.

"I think Judge Wapner was a wonderful role model," said Koch. "I just happen to be different. He comes from California, that's orange juice. I come from New York, that's seltzer."

Spoken like a man who knows he was chosen precisely because he embodies the peculiar traits of the city he led for 12 years. He's loud, garrulous (some might say pushy), blunt, flamboyant and a host of other adjectives that suggest he pretty much dominates wherever he finds himself.

"I got a call from my agent, saying that the owner of *The People's Court*, was going to revive the show ... but they were going to move to the New York region, and they had decided that the quintessential New Yorker was me," said Koch.

The former New York mayor promises a *People's Court* format that won't vary dramatically from what people are used to. Real people with real disagreements will still be going at each other. Sparks will occasionally fly.

As judge, he will listen to both sides and make his decision in accordance with the law. But Koch promises a change from the Solomon-like stoicism Wapner tried to practice from his bench. Wapner "saw himself as an umpire, which many judges do," Koch explained. "I view myself more as an inquisitor. ... I'm taking a more active role than he did."

(LA Times)

US paparazzi short is painfully prophetic

Director David Gambino had no idea when he made *Shooters* that one day his 22-minute film would contain eerie parallels to the recent traffic accident in Paris that claimed the lives of Princess Diana, her boyfriend Dodi Fayed, and their driver. Roaring along a snow-lined mountain highway in a speeding car, the paparazzi are chasing another vehicle they believe contains their prized prey: a celebrity and his mistress. As the photographers swerve around bends in the road, the driver fantasizes out loud about how he will spend all the money he will make from selling his shots to the tabloids.

Then something horrible happens. The two cars begin to skid. Brakes screech. Wheels lock. And the photographers scream as their car slams into a snowbank. Sitting in stunned silence, they slowly realize that the car they were pursuing has crashed. Its horn blares in the distance.

"In a way," Gambino said, "it's like we predicted it." Gambino, 25, and his fiancée, Lori Rosenc, 34, wrote the script two years ago after the increasing controversy over how far the paparazzi will go to snap photos of celebrities.

Using family savings and credit cards, Gambino assembled his production on a minuscule budget, with the cast and crew donating their time and talents.

The two principal actors were hired through an ad that appeared in a local casting publication. The film was shot in 10 days over five months, Gambino said.

He plans to enter the film at the Sundance Film Festival.

(LA Times)

The different faces of love

By ADINA HOFFMAN

Different for Girls is a small, sweet comic drama that's as notable for what it isn't as for what it is. In thoroughly unsensational terms, the BBC-produced film, directed by Richard Spence, tells the story of two school friends who are both a bit shocked when they meet up as adults: cutie-pie Prentice (Rupert Graves) is now a tough, good-hearted motorcycle delivery boy, an overgrown kid who still thrashes to punk music and refuses to clean up his room. Kim (Steven Mackintosh), meanwhile, has undergone a sex-change operation and become Kim (Steven Mackintosh), a primly dressed blonde with a job writing hearts-and-flowers verse for a greeting-card company, a carefully decorated bachelor apartment, and a sad dignity to her gait.

Although it's clear that she's relieved to finally be a woman - Mackintosh works wonders at physically conveying Kim's pri-

DIFFERENT FOR GIRLS

Directed by Richard Spence. Screenplay by Tony Marchant. Hebrew title: *Ne'ama Shoma*. 92 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children. With Rupert Graves, Steven Mackintosh, Miriam Margolyes, Saskia Reeves and Charlotte Coleman.

vate pleasure at her body's new softness and curves - there's also a terrible loneliness about her, something pinched around the jaw and upper lip. A lifetime of sexual uncertainty has left her quite fragile emotionally, and she seems most content to live simply, quietly, in studied avoidance of messy human involvement.

The situation, of course, changes for good when she reencounters Prentice, and the two begin their halting dance in each other's direction. While it's fairly clear from the outset where relations between them are headed, Tony Marchant's script is remarkably attentive to psychological detail, and it never once takes the potentially romantic situation for granted. Both of the actors manage, as well, to convey with delicate conviction the complexity of the situation: on the one hand, each character appears to be consciously play-acting a stereotypical male or female role. Their mutual awkwardness sends them scuttling to opposite ends of the chromosome-continuum, as if to



Kim (Steven Mackintosh, left) and Prentice (Rupert Graves) begin a tentative dance of courtship.

somehow prove themselves. (Both characters are insecure, though in very different ways.) The prissier Kim's behavior, the rowdier Prentice becomes, and vice versa. His rough-and-tumble biker milieu stands in direct, almost parodic contrast to her ordered pastel universe.

On the other hand, their attraction is obviously based on a set of feelings that have nothing in particular to do with transsexualism. The film works most effectively when it moves beyond obvious

questions of gender and manages to ask, among other knotty things, where platonic love gives way to sexual attraction, and how much our sense of the past (or our past selves) affects who we are today. Prentice and Kim have a complicated history together, as well as very distinct emotional needs. Her sex-change operation is in many ways the smallest obstacle to their getting together.

Spence directs the actors sensitively and never trivializes the difficult subject matter at hand.

(It's a cinch to imagine the coarse camp travesty that could easily have resulted from the same outline.) His frank, affectionate approach is refreshing, and his visual sense clean and unfussy. He cleverly uses various London settings as a kind of atmospheric shorthand to convey the characters' differences: their settings help define them.

The filmmakers run into trouble only when they move in the direction of more predictable melodrama or when they try to

make a larger, thematic fuss about gender roles. In a fairly unconvincing subplot, for instance, Kim's sister (Saskia Reeves) and her husband (Neil Dudgeon) are forced to confront his sterility and feelings of sexual inferiority.

Such narrative detours lend the movie an overearnest, didactic edge that keeps it from being a truly first-rate picture. But *Different for Girls* is still worth seeing. It's a work of unusual honesty and charm.

Reinventing the Diaspora Museum

By HELEN KAYE

In the last three years Dr. David Alexander has been fired from one job, head-hunted to another, lured to a third, and elected to a fourth. Since mid-August he has been the new general manager of the Diaspora Museum on the Tel Aviv University campus, hired to reinvent an institution most people perceive as a fuddy-duddy mausoleum. This is an image Alexander rejects.

"I fought for this job four years ago," he says, "because it is a vibrant and exciting place. It doesn't only relate to the past but to what is happening in the Jewish world now. When a place has a present and a past, it also has a future."

Four years ago Alexander was still the manager of the Tel Aviv foundation, a job he'd held for 15 years. Then, for a disastrous year, he was co-director with Gary Bili of the deficit-plagued Habimah National Theater, an ill-conceived alliance that ended with the partners' dismissal in 1995. Alexander managed the Wizo College in Haifa "loving every minute of it" through mid-1996.

Then he replaced Yossi Frost as head of the Arts and Culture Administration (ACA), a job he quit reluctantly in July because of contract disputes.

That left the way open for his appointment to the Diaspora Museum. When board chairman and Tel Aviv mayor Ronni Milo approached him, he said yes.

Alexander's office looks on to what could be a metaphor for the museum: an attractive patio gar-

den in dire need of some expert attention. Not only is the museum perceived as irrelevant, its negative image has been amplified by the labor problems that came to a head with a 42-day strike in the summer of 1995 that closed its doors at the height of the tourist season.

Arbitration led to an uneasy resolution which included the reopening of the museum and the establishment of a commission headed by Professor Michael Sela. The Sela Commission presented its findings in February this year: a doleful litany listing (among other things), a demoralized staff, antiquated technology, unimaginative and insensitive management, and the lugubrious conclusion that unless the museum got itself back on track within 18 months, it would have to be shut down for good.

"With a report like that, any improvement I effect will be regarded as an accomplishment," Alexander quips. "Much has changed, including staff, since those depositions [from staff and others] were taken and the conclusions reached," he continues.

As an example, Alexander cites the museum's marketing, which the report criticized severely and has since been totally revamped following the hiring of a professional marketing manager.

There is one recommendation, however, that will probably be quietly dropped - the installation of a charismatic president as some sort of super-CEO. While the idea of enlisting a dynamic public figure with the ability to attract sizable donations made sense, giving



David Alexander rejects the notion that the Diaspora Museum is irrelevant.

him/her the authority to override even the general manager "is utterly untenable," says one museum board member.

Alexander prefers to regard the Sela Report as a "guideline rather than some sort of goal. We have set up a five-member subcommittee of board members to establish an order of priorities. We expect to get their recommendations by the end of October."

Updating the museum's near-obsolete audiovisual technology is likely to be high on the list. It was state-of-the-art when the museum opened in 1978 but has not been upgraded since.

The museum is also actively looking for funding to complete the Center for Jewish Learning and mount a permanent exhibit devoted to Jewish creativity in the arts over the last century.

A quiet but intense enthusiasm characterizes whatever project Alexander undertakes. He learns the subject and then creates an infrastructural climate to suit the

work. He is demanding but generally easy to work with, say employees.

An academic whose doctoral dissertation was on satire in the Israeli theater and media, Alexander has taught a seminar on Israeli theater and the cultural scene in general at Tel Aviv

University for the past 25 years. He can deal with publicity and the media but prefers to do his work away from the spotlight.

At the Diaspora Museum, Alexander expresses his usual quiet confidence. "There's not a day when the place isn't swarming with people."

H.K.

An inside look

Opened in 1978, the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora is dedicated to the Jewish people's living history, tradition and heritage from the past to the present. The building's three floors on the Tel Aviv University campus house permanent exhibitions, a computerized data base containing Jewish genealogies from all over the world, a photo archive, music and educational centers with a vigorous year-round program, a museum shop, and temporary exhibitions. Currently on display is the multimedia show *Blue and White in Color*, celebrating 100 years of Zionism, and *An Emigrant in London* by Jewish emigre photographer Peter Hunter.

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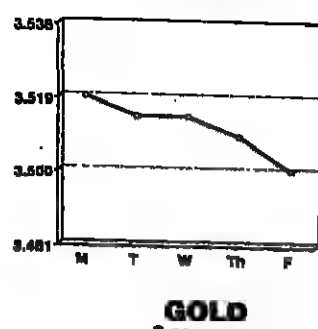
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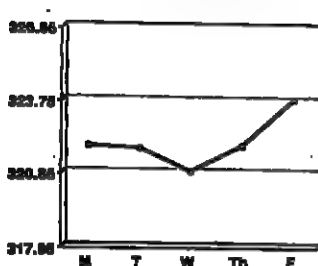
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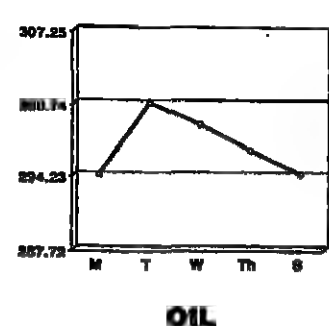
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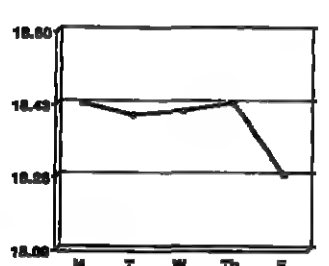
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IMA calls for property tax equality

Municipal property taxes (*arnona*) for industry must be brought in line with those for residential buildings, Manufacturers Association director-general Yoram Blizovsky demanded yesterday.

1st-half current-account deficit falls 35%

By DAVID HARRIS

Israel's current-account deficit, which is the overall gap between imported goods and services and exports combined with unilateral transfers, totaled \$2.329 billion in the first half of the year, a 35 percent reduction on the \$3.561b. registered in the same period in 1996, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The six-monthly figure comprised exports valued at \$16.152b., imports worth \$21.604b. and \$3.123b. in unilateral transfers. In the first half last year exports stood at \$14.762b., imports at \$21.225b. and unilateral transfers at 2.901b.

The quarterly data shows a March-to-June current account deficit of \$1.396b., compared to

\$0.934b. in the previous quarter and \$2.004b. in the second quarter last year.

This latest data is in marked contrast to the current-account deficit for 1996, which increased some 25%.

The statistics indicate that imports of goods and services increased by some \$0.4b. between January and June, when compared to the first half last year. This is particularly because of an increase in expenditure on foreign labor, said the bureau spokesman's office.

Within the overall imports total, there was a decline in goods coming into the country, but an increase in services.

"The improvement is very important for the economy, because it has reduced the danger

of increased foreign debt above capacity, but this was a result of reduced growth, not structural change in the economy," said economist Professor Haim Ben-Shahar of Ben-Shahar Associates. The improvement is principally the result of the recessionary rate of growth.

The solution is to cut government spending, according to Ben-Shahar. "For every \$1 reduced in government expenditure there will be at least a \$1 reduction in the deficit under current conditions," he said.

Among the statistics that Ben-Shahar believes to be key in those published yesterday is the increase in exports. The growth in exports between the first halves of 1995 and 1996 was 5%. Between 1996 and 1997 that rate increased to

9.4%.

This rise, argued Ben-Shahar, is the result of decreased internal demand and manufacturers, therefore, having little alternative but to seek markets abroad.

"Exporters are currently doing their best and if resumed growth comes with less government expenditure and increased exports, then we will see growth without an increase in the current-account deficit," concluded Shahar.

The bureau's data also shows that foreign debt increased some \$2.2b. during the first half, with a \$1.1b. rise in the economy's foreign-based assets. Overall net foreign liabilities to June 30 totaled \$20.3b., which included assets of \$28.6b. against a debt of \$48.9b.

Foreign investment here reached \$1.4b. in the first six months, com-

pared to \$1.3b. in the same period last year. Meanwhile, Israeli investments overseas shrank to \$0.5b. in the first half, from \$0.7b. between January and June, 1996.

The Bank of Israel's assets abroad rose sharply during the first half (\$6.1b.), compared to the first six months last year (\$0.9b.). This action was in order to weaken the shekel against the dollar and basket of major currencies. By mid-June, the central bank agreed to widen the diagonal exchange rate mechanism, allowing for greater shekel fluctuations, with the hope of lessening the bank's involvement in currency trade.

The banking sector though, reduced its foreign assets by \$4.2b. during the first half, compared to an increase of \$0.5b. last year.

Indigo-Scitex merger talks deadlocked

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Discussions of a merger between Indigo and Scitex, two of Israel's leading high-tech printing enterprises, have stalled due to concerns over who will control the company, sources close to the talks said yesterday.

"Everyone understands the business benefit of a merger, the problem is getting the two companies to agree on implementation," a source said yesterday.

Earlier reports stated that a merger would result in Scitex acquiring all of Indigo's shares. However Indigo sources denied ever agreeing to such a transaction, adding that a merger could result in Indigo's CEO, Benny Landa, controlling the company.

The Landa family owns nearly 60 percent of Indigo, while the Recanat family, via the IDB group, has a 26% stake in Scitex, and is a member of a partnership that holds 39% of the company.

In the case of a merger, Landa's share, based on the companies' market capitalization, would total just under 30%, while the Recanat family would have a 13% holding.

Despite the difficulties, analysts say that the financial reality each company faces may force them to overcome their differences. In the four-quarter period ending in June, Scitex posted losses of \$178 million, while Indigo's losses totalled \$80m.

"Necessity is the mother of invention," said Mark Meir, managing director of Pacific Mediterranean of Herzliya.

A merger would allow the companies to save on research and development costs and cut back on marketing expenditures, saving them a total of \$70-100 million annually.

Their complementary products would also allow the companies to better compete against rivals in the US and Europe. Scitex develops digital pre-print products, digital printing, and digital video, while Indigo manufactures digital color-printing systems.

In a communique released yesterday, Indigo, which is generally believed to have better technology but worse marketing channels than Scitex, said that it is considering several different alternatives and strategic alliances to help strengthen its market position.

Hats off to trade

Jordanian Minister of Industry and Trade Hani Mulki tries on counterpart Natan Sharansky's cap yesterday following negotiations over Jordanian-Israeli free-trade zones. Once signed, the agreement will provide for the establishment of several free-trade zones in Jordan. The US-Israel free-trade agreement will apply to goods manufactured in these areas, enabling Israeli manufacturers to benefit from Jordan's cheap labor supply as well as the favorable US tax policy.

(Brian Handler)

Dollar at three-month low against shekel

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The shekel appreciated to a three-month high of NIS 3.5 per dollar on Friday, and is likely to rise further with this afternoon's publication of the consumer price index, market sources said.

It also traded at NIS 3.7558 against the basket of key foreign currencies, only slightly higher than 3% above the lower edge of its trading band. Economists said the central bank will be forced to intervene in the foreign exchange market soon, to prevent the basket from falling further.

The central bank stopped inter-

vening in the market in June, after the shekel fell to NIS 3.58 per dollar following its decision to slash interest rates by 1.2%.

The rise of the shekel was attributed to the dollar's decline against the mark and the decision to raise lending rates for September by 0.7% to 13.4%.

Today's CPI is expected to show an increase of 0.4%-0.6%, according to most analysts. A higher than expected CPI figure might lead to another rate hike and a further appreciation of the shekel.

Dealers said the increase is encouraging the business community to prefer foreign currency-linked loans to shekel-dominated ones. Also, the high interest rates are attracting foreign investors to convert money into shekels to buy Israeli bonds that offer a relatively high yield.

Exporters said the central bank must act to depreciate the shekel. "The best thing would be to cut interest rates, but if this doesn't happen there might be room for an administrative depreciation," said Manufacturers Association director-general Yoram Blizovsky.

Gov't to close economic offices in New York, LA

Globe Business News

The offices of Israel's economic attaches in New York and Los Angeles will be closed, according to senior Israeli economic officials in the US.

The New York office will reopen at a reduced size and it will no longer be considered an economic umbrella office, in charge of the activities of all the other economic attaches in the US. The New York office will almost certainly operate out of the consulate in New York, according to the officials.

The changes will take effect soon, possibly as early as this winter, but no later than summer of next year. There are doubts concerning the expediency of maintaining an economic office in Los Angeles, despite the fact that the sources called the current economic attaché in LA "extremely talented."

They explained that a large portion of the economic activity in the Los Angeles area focuses on movie production and real estate, sectors which are not currently high national priorities for Israel.

The sources noted that the proposed plan for the operation of the

economic offices in the US includes the employment of local workers, which costs significantly less than maintaining Israeli delegates in those positions.

As part of the moves, Israel's economic attaché in Chicago returned here on August 1, and the office is being managed by a local woman. The Houston consulate will soon open an economic office managed by someone from the area.

In response, David Rubin, Israel's economic attaché in New York, who is in charge of all the commercial offices, stated, "I have heard nothing so far from either the Finance Ministry or the Industry and Trade Ministry, and, at this stage, there is no change in the status of the New York office. We are still central. There are many proposals, and no one knows yet which one will be accepted."

The Tourism Ministry, meanwhile, has succeeded in having the Finance Ministry's demand that it close 10 tourism bureaus overseas cancelled. The demand was part of the program of cuts to the 1998 budget.

The planned cut under this heading was NIS 13.8 million, including the abolition of 10 posts.

In addition, the planned cut to the ministry's marketing budget has been averted.

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POSTSCRIPT

ITA won't ask for compensation from Morocco

By HEATHER CHAIT

The Israel Tennis Association (ITA) decided last night not to press for financial compensation from Morocco following that country's refusal to play in the Davis Cup tie at Ramat Hasharon.

The tie was due to be played this weekend but Morocco announced on Friday that their team would not play in Israel.

The ITA's decision was reached at a meeting last night in Tel Aviv. Chairman David Hamik estimated that the cancellation of the tie has cost the ITA NIS 30,000.

Despite this, the fact that both the Moroccan players and their tennis association had shown a keenness to play and that they had been prevented from doing so by political influences within their country, swayed the ITA's decision not to take further steps.

The International Tennis Federation (ITF) is also expected to mete out minimal punishment to the Moroccan Tennis Federation, given the political issues involved.

Hamik voiced his satisfaction with the ITF's decision not to bend to Morocco's two requests to move the tie to a neutral country.

NFL results

Results of early National Football League games yesterday: Oakland 36, Atlanta 31; Detroit 32, Chicago 7; Green Bay 23, Miami 18; Kansas City 22, Buffalo 16; Tampa Bay 28, Minnesota 14; Baltimore 24, NY Giants 23; Washington 19, Arizona 13 (OT).



CONSOLATION EFFORT - Blackburn's Swedish star Martin Dahlin scores his side's third goal as he shoots past Leeds goalkeeper Nigel Martyn.

Leeds beat Blackburn in 7-goal thriller

LONDON (Reuters) - Leeds ended Blackburn's unbeaten start to the season with a 4-3 win at Elland Park yesterday. All seven goals arrived in a 30-minute first-half spell.

The result ended Leeds' three-match losing sequence and brought them their first goals in a month.

But their victory was marred by six bookings and the bizarre sending off of young Australian midfielder Harry Kewell, dismissed 12 minutes from time for a second yellow card imposed after he twice moved the ball as Blackburn tried to take a free-kick.

A close-range effort from Rodney Wallace and a well-struck volley from Dutchman Robert Molenar in the opening six minutes put Leeds 2-0 up.

Blackburn were level after only 16

minutes with an outstanding 25-meter drive from Kevin Gallacher, and a Chris Sutton penalty, awarded after Molenar hauled down Swede Martin Dahlin.

But a minute later Leeds were 3-2 ahead after a superb goal from Wallace, who dribbled across the penalty area before finding a tiny space to shoot into the top left-hand corner of Tim Flowers' net.

Six minutes after that David Hopkins put Leeds 4-2 ahead, picking his spot with a cross-shot that left Flowers floundering as the ball bobbed past him into the far corner.

Blackburn, revitalized this season under new coach Roy Hodgson, were far from defeated and Dahlin reduced the deficit to 4-3 12 minutes before the break.

The second half failed to live up to the excitement of the first. Both sides went close but neither scored again.

Premier League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester United	4	3	1	0	8	1	10
Blackburn	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Leeds	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Wed	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Utd	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Nottingham	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Derby	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Wed	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Utd	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Nottingham	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Derby	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Wed	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Sheff Utd	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Nottingham	4	3	1	0	7	5	10
Derby	4	3	1	0	7	5	10

Jerusalem battered again

By ELI GRONER

The year of great expectations is slowly turning into a nightmare for Hapoel Jerusalem. Only four days before its EuroLeague debut, the capital side suffered its second consecutive humiliating loss to a projected bottom-of-the-table club.

On the other end of the spectrum, Maccabi Tel Aviv, Hapoel Eilat and Galil Elyon stayed perfect, while Holon and Ra'anana evened their records, after turning back Herzliya and Kiryat Motzkin, respectively. Mac. RG 80 Hap. Jerusalem 69.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. Hapoel Jerusalem was supposed to cruise to victory in its first two league matchups before Thursday's big game against Kinder Bologna.

But for the second time in four days, a shoddy Jerusalem performance against an opportunistic

opponent cost Gadi Kedari's club a loss.

Dictating the pace of the game and Jerusalem's inability to hit a medium-range jumper, were the keys for Ramat Gan.

Efi Birnbaum's club grabbed the lead it would never relinquish in the opening minute. The foreigner combination of former Jerusalem star Norris Coleman and Lance Miller were in top form from the start. Coleman haunted his old club, tallying 19 points, along with 10 rebounds and five assists, while Miller paced Ramat Gan scorers with 20.

But the player of the game was Tomer Karmi. At one point in the second half, Karmi started off a Jerusalem charge by converted four consecutive three-pointers, to secure Ramat Gan's lead and keep the game out of reach.

While Jerusalem's Radisav Curcic

gave a valiant, 28-point effort, Doron Shefi's and Motti Daniel's inability to score from the outside doesn't bode well for Thursday's big debut. One thing is clear: it will take much, much more than Adi Gordon's return from his two-game suspension to get Jerusalem back in the right direction.

Other scores last night: Mac. Tel Aviv 84, Mac. Netanya 43; Hap. Eilat 86, Givat Shmuel 71; Galil Elyon 80, Mac. Rishon 74; Hap. Holon 93, Be'er Herzliya 65; Mac. Ra'anana 85, Kiryat Motzkin 83 (OT).

National Basketball League	W	L	Pts.
Maccabi Tel Aviv	2	0	4
Hapoel Eilat	2	0	4
Galil Elyon	2	0	4
Maccabi Kiryat Motzkin	1	1	3
Hapoel Holon	1	1	3
Maccabi Rishon	1	1	3
Be'er Herzliya	1	1	3
Maccabi Netanya	1	1	3
Hapoel Jerusalem	0	2	2
Maccabi Ramat Gan	0	2	2
Givat Shmuel	0	2	2

Warwickshire snatch Sunday League as Kent lose

LONDON (Reuters) - Warwickshire won the English Sunday League by beating Gloucestershire by 71 runs at Edgbaston as rivals Kent lost by seven wickets to Yorkshire at Headingley.

Nick Knight, out for nought in last Sunday's humiliating NatWest final defeat by Essex, bounced back with 102 as Warwickshire took the title by two points - their seventh trophy in five seasons.

Warwickshire scored 221 for six in their 40 overs and then skittled Gloucester for 150.

Allan Donald took four wickets - including the last - and was

chaired from the field by delighted fans. Left-arm spinner Ashley Giles also picked up four.

Gloucestershire were 129 for six when the announcement was made that Kent had lost. From then on the noise level grew as the victory drew near.

Kent started the day top of the standings and would have taken the crown for the second time in three years with a win.

But they struggled to 185 for eight and were helpless as Yorkshire raced to victory for the loss of just three wickets with 10 overs to spare.

Australian Darren Lehmann

smashed a quickfire 78 off 68 balls to ruin Kent's hopes.

Sunday League Standings	W	L	T	PP	PP
Warwickshire	17	4	0	0	32
Yorkshire	17	4	0	1	31
Gloucestershire	17	4	1	2	28
Leicestershire	17	5	0	2	27
Surrey	17	5	0	3	26
Nottinghamshire	17	5	0	4	25
Derbyshire	17	5	1	1	24
Warwickshire	17	5	1	2	23
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	3	22
Leicestershire	17	5	1	4	21
Derbyshire	17	5	1	5	20
Warwickshire	17	5	1	6	19
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	7	18
Leicestershire	17	5	1	8	17
Derbyshire	17	5	1	9	16
Warwickshire	17	5	1	10	15
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	11	14
Leicestershire	17	5	1	12	13
Derbyshire	17	5	1	13	12
Warwickshire	17	5	1	14	11
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	15	10
Leicestershire	17	5	1	16	9
Derbyshire	17	5	1	17	8
Warwickshire	17	5	1	18	7
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	19	6
Leicestershire	17	5	1	20	5
Derbyshire	17	5	1	21	4
Warwickshire	17	5	1	22	3
Gloucestershire	17	5	1	23	2
Leicestershire	17	5	1	24	1
Derbyshire	17	5	1	25	0

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Real Estate & Investments in Israel 1997

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Realignment showdown starts

LOS ANGELES — Major League Baseball owners prepare for a three-day meeting in Atlanta starting tomorrow for the radical realignment plan in which 15 teams would switch leagues is gone with the wind.

Modified versions in which nine to 11 teams switch leagues are still possible, but opinions are so varied among owners, who tend to bend with the wind, that it's not even certain a vote will be taken in Atlanta. It's also not clear which plan will survive, and it's conceivable that owners will revert to a Band-Aid approach, switching only a few teams.

San Diego Padre President Larry Lucchino, a member of the realignment committee, is somewhat exasperated with the time-consuming scenario. He thinks a decision will be reached in Atlanta. "Fortunately and mercifully," he said, "We need to move on to the schedule. We need a [1998] schedule and we need some decisions. The world isn't waiting for a perfect decision. It's just waiting for a decision."

Peter Magowan, the San Francisco Giants' owner, is waiting intently. Magowan said he is considering legal action if baseball tries to put the Oakland Athletics into the National League. In the plan deemed to have the best chance, every Pacific and Mountain time zone team will be in the NL. The Giants will remain in a division with the Dodgers, Padres and Colorado Rockies. The A's will be with the Angels, Seattle Mariners and Arizona Diamondbacks.

Realignment requires only majority approval, but any club asked to switch leagues has veto rights. The Giants don't have a veto because they're not switching leagues, but Magowan said, "We were given exclusive National League rights to the Bay Area when we bought the team, so I definitely think we have a legal position."

"We have a smaller population base and a smaller distance between the teams," Magowan said. "We're not interested in sharing the advantage of National League baseball with a competitor."

Both the Cubs and Mets protested when they were going to be moved into the American League [in the radical plan], and now they're going to stay in the National League. "If that separation [in two team markets] is a good thing for New York and Chicago, why isn't it a good thing in the Bay Area?"

How far Magowan is willing to carry his objection is uncertain. "I just think we're trying to do too much too soon," he said. "I'm not saying that some form of radical realignment might not be right down the line, but let's wait and do it right rather than hurry into it and throw away 115 years of history and tradition. I'm in favor of the Band-Aid approach for now."

Acting Commissioner Bud Selig defends the plan: "Tradition is important, but we can't be hostages to it. We can't live with the status quo. When you take a 162-game schedule and add interleague, expansion and the three-division/wild-card format, the current structure just doesn't work. We talk about growing revenue. The best way to do that is maximize rivalries and minimize travel."

The modified plan—nine teams would switch leagues—with widest support is this:

NATIONAL LEAGUE (16 TEAMS) West: Dodgers, San Francisco, San Diego, Colorado, Pacific: Angels, Oakland, Seattle, Arizona. East: Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and the Mets. Central: Milwaukee, St. Louis, Kansas City and the Cubs.

AMERICAN LEAGUE (14 TEAMS) East: Florida, Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia and the New York Yankees. Central: Houston, Texas, Minnesota and the Chicago White Sox. Combination: Montreal, Cleveland, Toronto, Detroit and Tampa Bay.

(Los Angeles Times)

AMERICAN LEAGUE					NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division					East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	90	55	.621	—	Atlanta	91	56	.619	—
New York	83	63	.568	26½	Florida	85	61	.582	5½
Boston	72	75	.490	19	New York	80	67	.544	11
Detroit	72	76	.486	19½	Montreal	74	73	.503	17
Toronto	71	77	.480	20½	Philadelphia	59	87	.404	31½
Central Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	77	66	.538	—	Houston	75	72	.510	—
Chicago	73	75	.493	6½	Pittsburgh	71	77	.480	4½
Milwaukee	72	74	.493	6½	St. Louis	68	79	.463	7
Kansas City	60	85	.414	18	Cincinnati	67	80	.456	8
Minnesota	59	87	.404	19½	Chicago	62	86	.419	13½
West Division					West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	82	67	.550	—	San Francisco	82	66	.554	—
Anaheim	76	72	.514	5½	Los Angeles	81	67	.547	1
Texas	70	78	.473	11½	Colorado	76	72	.514	6
Oakland	61	88	.409	21	San Diego	70	78	.473	12

Saturday's NL results: New York 9, Montreal 6; Florida 8, San Francisco 1; Houston 5, Los Angeles 1; Colorado 10, Atlanta 6; Cincinnati 3, Philadelphia 0; San Diego 8, St. Louis 3; Chicago 4, Pittsburgh 1.

Saturday's AL results: Toronto 6, Seattle 3; Kansas City 3, Anaheim 1; Baltimore 6, New York 1; Chicago 7, Cleveland 6; Oakland 4, Detroit 2; Boston 2, Milwaukee 1; Texas 9, Minnesota.

Carl Lewis marks retirement with exhibition run

HOUSTON (Reuters) — Nine-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis on Saturday capped his reign as the king of track and field with a final dash on his home track at the University of Houston before thousands of screaming fans.

Lewis, 36, and three Santa Monica Track Club teammates ran an exhibition 4x100 meter relay and USA Track & Field, the sport's governing body, retired a symbolic national team jersey to mark the end of his storied competitive career.

"It's been a long road, been a lot of fights and a lot of fun. But to quote a song by Frank Sinatra, I did it my way and that's still pretty damned good," Lewis said after the run at halftime of alma mater University of Houston's football game against Pittsburgh.

Lewis ran the relay with Leroy Burrell, Mike Marsh and Floyd Heard, the current world record holders in the 4x200 meter relay. The exhibition was run at a leisurely pace because Marsh, who won Olympic gold in the 200 meters and 4x100 meter relay at the 1992 Olympics, will undergo foot surgery next month.

Lewis was a member of five US Olympic teams, winning four gold medals at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and capping his career with a record-tying ninth Olympic gold medal in the long jump at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

He trained at the University of Houston for the past 18 years and in



FESTIVE FAREWELL — Carl Lewis waves to the crowd after running his last race on Saturday.

1990 paid to have the track resurfaced. He said he will continue to work out with teammates preparing for the 2000 Olympic games, but will not return to competition.

"Physically, I feel that I could jump and sprint well for years," he said. "Mentally, it's time to move on." Lewis plans to appear at several exhibition and charity meets, including two races at the Nike Track Classic in Australia in February. He is under contract to the sporting goods giant through 2004.

He has been an outspoken critic of

drug use by athletes, and after his final competitive race in Europe in August, Lewis attacked rivals for staging head-to-head races that promote individuals instead of the sport.

But Lewis said his running battle with US and international track and field associations ended when he broke through the tape in front of an estimated 16,000 fans to mark his official retirement from the sport.

"As of the end of this interview, I don't have to say anything about track and field anymore," he said in a post-race press conference.

The Australian, already 500cc world champion for a fourth time, rose to his 12th victory of his remarkable career — his 10th in a row.

Set for third at 273.

MOTORCYCLING — Michael Doohan broke Giacomo Agostini's 25-year-old record of 11 wins in a season when he led off the challenge of local riders Carlos Checa and Alex Criville to win the Catalunya Grand Prix in Montmeló, Spain yesterday.

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MOTORCYCLING —

CRITICS' CHOICE

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** ROSEANNA'S GRAVE - A surprisingly sunny film about death and dying, this is the tale of a simple but well-meaning trattoria owner (Jean Reno) who lives with his beloved wife (Mercedes Ruehl) in a postcard-perfect Italian village where the cemetery has almost filled to maximum capacity. Roseanna is very sick and Marcello has embarked on a desperate campaign to keep the entire town alive and well so that, when the sad time comes, she might be buried in one of the last unoccupied plots.

Unabashedly schmaltzy in places, the picture is, make no mistake, indefensible as art shot in a too-quiet-to-be-true style on location, the film features American, British and French actors speaking English in phony-sounding (and occasionally incomprehensible) Italian accents, and Saul Turteltaub's script has a tendency to belly-flop into its stand-up-routine styled punch-lines. But the movie is charming in other, little ways. Reno's character is a singularly batty dark-comic creation, Ruehl is delightful as always, and director Paul Weiland demonstrates unusual warmth and sympathy for all the characters, whose sentimental situation is constantly being jogged just slightly by the story's wry twists and turns. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

The Pink Panther is one of the all-time favorite animated characters. He made his debut in 1964 in the opening of Blake Edwards's classic film of the same name, created by Fritz Freling. Now, after 30 years, new episodes of the Pink Panther's adventures have been created and are being aired on Channel 1 daily at 3:30 p.m., starting today. In this series, the Panther actually speaks, though not a lot, and maintains his cool demeanor throughout a series of zany adventures ranging from stunts as a sorcerer's apprentice, a secret agent and a dog groomer, to being abducted by aliens.

For the adults who are addicted to entertainment



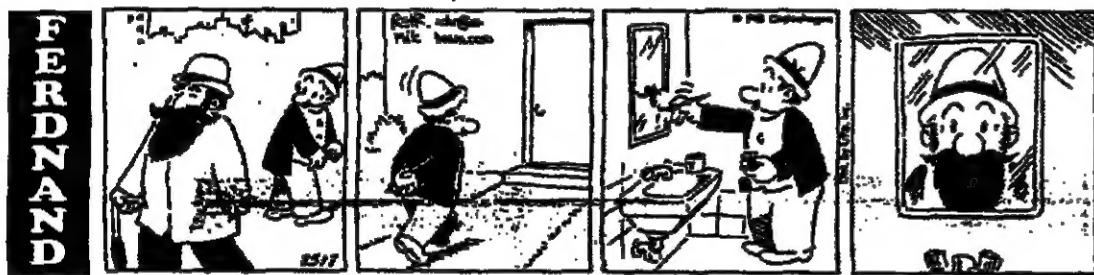
Those didn't get a chance to see how 'R.R.' fared at the Emmies can do so tonight at 8:25 on the Family Channel.

and celebrities but couldn't stay up last night, the Family Channel is screening an abridged version of the 1997 Emmy Awards Ceremony tonight at 8:25. The same series seem to be competing again for most awards: E.R., for example, is leading once more with 22 nominations. Comedies competing for awards are the *Larry Sanders Show* with 16 nominations, *Frasier*, *Seinfeld*, *Mad About You* and *Third Rock from the Sun*. Two dramas with loads of nominations as well are the *X-Files* and *NYPD*.

ENGLISH & FRENCH POETRY

HELEN KAYE

The Writers Federation is sponsoring an entire week of poetry by Israeli writers in 12 languages. Each evening features musical interludes. Romanian and German (tomorrow); Yiddish and Polish (next Tuesday). Tonight it's English and French poetry at the Writers House, 11 Kaplan, Tel Aviv, at 8 p.m.



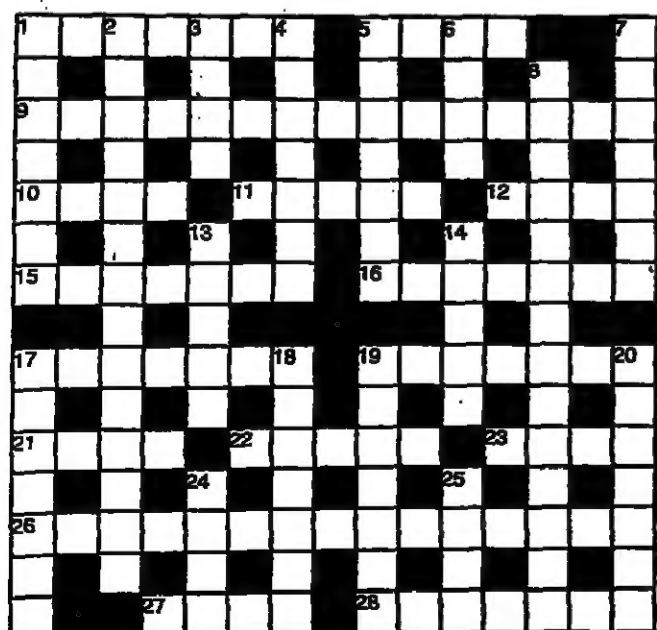
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Acrobat on the bar? (7)
- 5 Gold painter of quality (4)
- 9 Tom in Adventures novel withdrawn (15)
- 10 Grass border, patchy at the outset (4)
- 11 Call for a round of drinks (5)
- 12 Cycle-clip for a gift? (4)
- 15 Men's man (7)
- 16 Brief rises with difficulty after party (7)
- 17 Paid the difference on top of mine (7)
- 18 Sort of beer for a man on board (7)
- 21 Generator is taken back by engineers (4)

DOWN

- 22 A timber at right-angles to length of vessel (5)
- 23 What a difference when the snow clears! (4)
- 26 Unethically, he makes up premarital tonic (15)
- 27 A pitcher? (4)
- 28 Aids for potters and spinners (7)
- 1 Moved to sympathy, being slightly mad (7)
- 2 Painted lady (5,9)
- 3 Cooked meal of game (4)
- 4 Organized game almost spreads out west (7)
- 5 Shock with reference to German conjunction (7)



SOLUTIONS

- 6 Wild pear harvest (4)
- 7 Sandown starts with rotten turnout—get a loudspeaker, say? (7)
- 8 Small hope of success in a row? (8,6)
- 15 Rapid river no longer (5)
- 14 Try this piece of lamb, say? (5)
- 17 Card-carrying guy after job? (7)
- 18 Bed put up—not quite clean—messy? What a disaster! (7)
- 19 Girl stars in journals (7)
- 20 Where candidates look in elections, or just before? (7)
- 24 Dig up some food (4)
- 25 Note about skirt? (4)



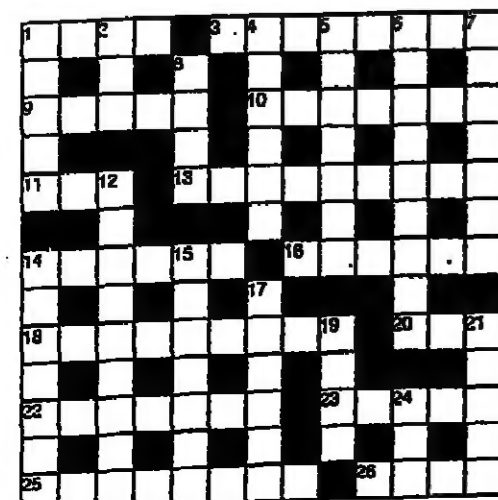
QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1—Austrian composer (4)
- 3 Department of NE France (8)
- 9 Entire range (5)
- 10 Chat (7)
- 11 Fresh (3)
- 12 Aristocrat (9)
- 14 Die (6)
- 16 Asinine (6)
- 18 Or else (9)
- 20 Plunder (3)
- 22 Wealthy (7)
- 23 Sarah (dim.) (5)
- 25 Pachyderm (8)
- 26 Celebrity (4)

DOWN

- 1 Commence (5)
- 2 Spirit (3)
- 4 Salad plant (6)
- 5 Easy to understand (7)
- 6 Journal (9)
- 7 Sweetened (7)
- 8 Counterfeit (4)
- 12 Depository, store (9)
- 14 Upgrade, elevate (7)
- 15 Shriek cry (7)
- 17 Young cat (6)
- 19 Comfort (4)
- 21 Purchaser (5)
- 24 Destiny (3)



TV

CHANNEL 1

- 8:30 News flash
- 8:31 News In Arabic
- 8:45 Good Morning Israel
- 10:00 Murphy Brown
- 10:30 Babylon 5
- 20:10 Highlander
- 21:00 News in English
- 21:35 ERI
- 22:15 Homicide

EDUCATIONAL TV

- 8:00 Asiascope
- 8:30 Class Me! You
- 9:00 Reading
- 9:25 Social Sciences
- 9:55 English
- 10:00 For the very young
- 11:00 History
- 11:55 World Literature
- 12:30 Science
- 13:20 Medicine
- 13:30 Cartoons
- 15:00 Musical
- 15:05 Without Secrets
- 15:05 Super Ben
- 16:00 Shingola
- 16:25 Super Ben
- 16:35 Garfield
- 16:55 A New Evening
- 17:34 Best of Zappy
- 18:05 Super Ben
- 18:15 News in English

CHANNEL 1

- 15:30 Pink Panther
- 15:35 Super Ben
- 16:00 Shingola
- 16:25 Super Ben
- 16:35 Garfield
- 16:55 A New Evening
- 17:34 Best of Zappy
- 18:05 Super Ben
- 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

- 18:30 Sport
- 19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS

- 19:30 News flash
- 19:31 Israel Music
- 20:00 News
- 20:05 Pop Culture
- 22:15 Bugs
- 23:05 Townies
- 23:30 News
- 00:00 Daily Verse

CHANNEL 2

- 8:15 Today's Programs
- 8:30 Cartoons
- 9:00 This Morning
- 9:00 Riva Michaeli
- 9:55 Seneca
- 10:50 Dynasty
- 11:00 Medics
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Rafael Eitan: Histadrut strikes political

By DAVID HARRIS

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday called on the government to take legal action against Histadrut chairman Amir Peretz because of the ongoing work disruptions throughout the economy.

As many as 50,000 Histadrut members took part in work sanctions yesterday as the organization stepped up its fight against what it calls government attacks on pension rights, the proposed structural changes across the economy and the planned NIS 2.3 billion cut in the 1998 state budget.

Disruptions are also scheduled for

today. Those likely to be holding disruptive information meetings include workers at the Israel Electric Corporation in the North, Kupat Holim Clalit, the National Insurance Institute, the Public Works Department, the Agriculture Ministry, Shekem canteens, Tadiran, and those employed in the metal work industry.

Many of those expected to halt work today also took action yesterday. These included workers at the NII, Bezeq, Clalit, the law courts, Mekorot, the IEC, the PWD, the Income Tax and Property Tax Commission, the Fire Service and Agriculture Ministry.

In Eitan's ministry, some 1,700 staffers refused to deal with inquiries from the public, nor did they process imports, issue import or export permits or administer vaccinations to animals.

It is principally as a result of these measures that Eitan is demanding that Peretz be charged, Peretz is acting for purely political motivations, Eitan said, before yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting.

"The Histadrut is a political tool of the opposition to ram the government," said Eitan. "The good of the workers is not its motive."

Eitan also said he will encourage farmers, who cannot export because of the

sanctions, to make claims against the Histadrut.

The Treasury also opposed the Histadrut's actions. The sanctions are not being taken by the poorer workers, but those in the average wage brackets, claimed an official source, who further attacked the Histadrut for sanctions at the NII.

"We have no idea why they are striking there, but we do know that they are hitting at the weaker sections of society that are unable to claim their essential benefit payments," said the source.

The Treasury also issued a statement condemning the Histadrut, saying the

industrial action is having a negative impact on "disabled, unemployed, those injured at work, older people and women receiving maternity payments."

The Treasury program for increasing the pace of growth in the economy will create additional jobs said state budget director David Milgrom.

Meanwhile, the Union of Local Authorities in Israel has decided to renew its protests against the government-proposed budget cuts for next year. The ULAI claims the government is directly and indirectly planning to ax more than NIS 650 million from local authority budgets.

Dig precedes Yarmuk dam project

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

Even as the Middle East peace process appeared to be yielding to rigor mortis after US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's cheerless visit, several hundred men were engaged yesterday from dawn to dusk in preparing the ground for one of the peace process' most tangible results to date — a dam on the Yarmuk River.

The workmen were not working on the dam itself, but are being employed by the Antiquities Authority to complete an archeological excavation before the site is covered by a runoff channel from the dam.

"We've got to do a year's work in three months, so that the Jordanians can begin laying foundations for the dam by November 1, as their agreement with Israel calls for," said Amir Drori, director-general of the authority.

The excavations at Tel Dover are being carried out in a hitherto closed military zone on the edge of the Yarmuk, west of Hamat Gader.

Israel will be giving up 12 dunams (3 acres) of land and a portion of its archeological heritage. "We will be sacrificing antiquities in the interest of high policy, in the interest of peace," said Drori. "But first we want to document what is here."

The dam will permit Jordan to utilize 500 million cubic meters of winter runoff that would otherwise be lost, and is a central element in the water agreement achieved earlier this year.



A soldier in a border post (upper left) looks out over archaeological excavations at Tel Dover on the edge of the Yarmuk River, which marks the border with Jordan. (AP)

erwise be lost, and is a central element in the water agreement achieved earlier this year.

The northern edge of the dam will rest on the Israeli shore, a barren stretch of ground to which civilians have had no access. Most of this tract constitutes the lower part of Tel Dover. The Antiquities Authority received a government allocation that permitted it to muster 260 workers and a large professional staff for the emergency dig. Many of the workers come daily from Lebanon, the rest are Israeli Jews and Arabs. The area to be destroyed constitutes only 20 percent of the tel, the rest of which is not endangered by the project.

Recent press reports have claimed that Israel was seeking

to move the dam a kilometer upstream to spare the site. That would have put the dam into an area claimed by Syria, something vigorously opposed by Damascus. There were allegations that National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon favored such a move in order to foreclose the possibility of the upstream area being returned to Syria in a Golan compromise.

However, Drori said the Antiquities Authority had reconciled itself to the loss of the site in the interests of peace and was not asking for the project to be moved. A spokesman for the National Infrastructure Ministry said last night that the present downstream site for the dam "has been agreed upon by Israel and Jordan in the framework of the peace agreement between

the two countries."

The site had been originally thought to harbor only Byzantine and Islamic remains, but the excavation has revealed earlier settlement periods, including Israelite (11th-10th centuries BCE). There are extensive remains from a Jewish agricultural village during the Roman period, including a paved riverfront "boardwalk."

Northern district archeologist Zvi Gal noted that the international road that led to Damascus and Mesopotamia crossed the Yarmuk somewhere near this point. An Arab fortress built on the site in the 10th Century CE, on the ruins of a Byzantine monastery, may have been a stronghold along that road, he said.

Surveying the scene from

under his Australian-style forage hat, Drori noted that the area is familiar to him from his days as a Golani Brigade battalion commander in charge of the Yarmuk sector in the late 1960s. His men had engaged in numerous fights with Palestinian gunmen coming across the river, which is easily fordable at this time of year, and the soldiers had sometimes pursued the Palestinians back across the river onto Jordanian territory.

As Drori spoke, a Jordanian army truck passing on the other side of the river, barely 15 meters wide at this point, tooted at the Israelis on the opposite bank.

Gal said the site may open to the public during Succot to permit a first, and final, look at lower Tel Dover.

Acre's schools win more funding

Several hundred Acre residents demonstrated yesterday opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, demanding that their city be given Development Zone A status.

Mayor Eli de Castro and two of his councilmen, meanwhile, met inside with Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman to lobby for the change in status, which would provide additional government aid in education, housing, industry, and tourism, plus tax breaks.

As the meeting concluded, Lieberman came to an agreement with Education Ministry Director-General Ben Zion Dell to implement the Zone A benefits in education immediately, so that Acre's 14,000 pupils could begin the school year.

Lieberman announced he is preparing a comprehensive plan to provide specific solutions to Acre's problems. Spokesman Shai Bazak said the plan would be presented for cabinet approval in about two months. (Itm)

Schwartz released from hospital

The presumed abduction of Ya'acov Schwartz is still being investigated, with police still lacking a clear understanding of the circumstances of his disappearance last week.

Schwartz, 63, of Bnei Brak, who was found in a burning building in Ashkelon on Friday, was released yesterday from Barzilai Hospital.

Police are still waiting for lab tests that could provide insight into Schwartz's claim that he was kidnapped by two men, dressed as IDF soldiers, whom he had given a lift in his car. They are continuing to investigate the possibility that it was a terrorist kidnapping. (Itm)

Agreement with Vatican to be signed this month

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Israel and the Vatican are expected to sign, at the end of this month, an agreement on the "legal personality" of the Catholic Church here, thus resolving one of the two major obstacles to a complete understanding between the two sides.

Still outstanding is an understanding concerning taxation and

other financial issues, while the agreement being signed defines the issue of the status of the church and its hierarchy under Israeli law.

The two issues had remained unresolved when Israel and the Vatican signed their fundamental agreement in 1994. At the time, the Vatican had wanted to make finalizing the agreement conditional on reaching agreement on both these points, but it had eventually agreed to Israel's insistence that the agreement be unconditional.

The approval by the government came about 18 months after the subcommittee had actually finalized its talks, a delay that had left Roman Catholics suspecting ill will on Israel's part. However, according to an Israeli source, the delay had more to do with bureaucracy and lack of official interest than any malevolence.

In fact, the source said, it was only when Roman Catholic disquiet was expressed in the US, and

the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations made the government aware of the public relations importance of signing the agreement that it got around to approving it last week.

According to Rabbi David Rosen, Israel director of the Anti-Defamation League, the problem lay in the fact that the legal authority of the Catholic Church is elsewhere, and Israel was unwilling to grant extraterritoriality to the thousands of citizens who are Catholic clergy. Until now, he said, if a rogue priest somewhere in the country sold church property, it would have been legally difficult for his bishop to say that he had no right to do so.

Israel, Rosen said, recognized the structure of the church and its hierarchy, and the church recognized Israel's sovereignty over all its citizens. Although there had been de facto recognition in the past, this was the first de jure recognition by any government of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, Rosen said.

MKs question continued yeshiva student exemptions

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan yesterday called for the drafting of haredi yeshiva students into special IDF units which will guard Jewish holy places.

His statement followed Yediot Aharanot's weekend expose about the thousands of young haredim, who instead of studying in yeshivot — for which they receive an exemption from military service and government subsidies — go to work.


Among those found to be working against the law, the expose lists the nephew of the head of the committee responsible for the exemptions, and the nephew of Yaffa Deri, wife of Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri.

Eitan said his proposal would reduce the burden on soldiers. "It is intolerable that tens of thousands of young men engage in so-called Torah studies, while everybody knows many of them exploit the law to lead an idle life, receiving state money. It's time the security burden was divided equally, which means general recruitment with no exemptions," he said.

MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) said Eitan's proposal is neither serious nor practical. The only way to resolve "the scandal of wholesale exemptions from military service for yeshiva students is to set a quota for these exemptions, which will prevent the obscene phenomena of thousands of haredi youngsters, using the yeshivot as a shelter from military service."

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) demanded setting up a state inquiry commission to look into the "scandal of the yeshiva students' evasion of military service."

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Hafia	20-34
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Tel Aviv	21-30
Jerusalem	15-33
Beer Sheva	18-34
Dead Sea	25-38
Eilat	25-40

Forecast: Unseasonably high temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Temp	Weather
Amsterdam	05-16	cloudy
Berlin	04-28	cloudy
Buenos Aires	01-20	cloudy
Calcutta	21-30	cloudy
Chicago	18-27	cloudy
Copenhagen	10-18	cloudy
Frankfurt	05-11	cloudy
Geneva	08-18	cloudy
Hong Kong	24-30	cloudy
Jakarta	27-32	cloudy
London	17-23	cloudy
Los Angeles	19-26	cloudy
Madrid	11-22	cloudy
Moscow	11-22	cloudy
Mumbai	27-32	cloudy
New York	18-24	cloudy
Paris	10-18	cloudy
Rome	18-24	cloudy
Stockholm	09-15	cloudy
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Tokyo	19-25	cloudy
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